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2006 Summer Edition

THE COMMUNICATOR

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16 Pages, 2 Sections, Free

Swearing in closes highly competitive election

By Andrew C. Hoover
news@ipfwcommunicator.org

On an unusually cold day in May, a well-dressed group of people gathered together in Walb to say out with the old and in with the new.

Around 30 people watched as Shay Stroik, Alicia Cripps, Aaron Williamson and Danny Epple "solemnly affirmed" to uphold the IPFW Constitution and represent the population of IPFW as the 2006-2007 student government officers.

STROIK

Chancellor Wartell, Walt Branson and more listened as friends and family gathered to here Dani Witzgreuter host the solemn event.

This year's IPSGA election brought in an 336 votes and was hallmarked by violations of campaigning rules, threats of lawsuits over rejected campaign slogans and the personal demons of Epple.

CRIPPS

Lamar Dixon, Tony Wilson, Nate Hubley and Shay Stroik spoke to the new officers on pride, teamwork and thanked the people who helped them during the 2005-06 year.

Dixon and Stroik both compared IPSGA to families, with Stroik commenting her much taller co-officers were "big brothers."

The new officers were welcomed again by Witzgreuter, who commented that they had "pretty big shoes to fill" but felt confident that the newly elected group would fill them well.

The new officers lined up from shortest to tallest, in order of importance of position, with Stroik as the new president being sworn in first.

The swearing in ends what one student called "the most controversial election ever for IPFW" and what was a surprisingly dramatic event for such a small election.

This year's IPSGA election brought in an 336 votes and was hallmarked by violations of campaigning rules, threats of lawsuits over rejected campaign slogans and the personal demons of Epple.

The small turnout has prompted an investigation by the IPSGA in hopes of having a larger turnout next year.

Some students sighted confusion over where or how to vote, when to vote, and more than a few claimed they just didn't care.

The official results of the IPSGA investigation have not yet been fully analyzed and released.

ALMOST FAMOUS

Men's volleyball team travels to Final Four for the first time in seven years, swept away by UCLA

By Dan Vance
dvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

They were never supposed to be here. That is the first thing that men's volleyball coach Arnie Ball will tell you.

They were never supposed to be breathing the crisp Pennsylvania air in the spring, never supposed to get this once-in-a-lifetime glimpse at the national spotlight. But somehow they did, and somehow they were there right in the middle of it all come Final Four time. Flash bulbs going to work, ESPN2 cameras all around — IPFW had made the dance and did so a whole year earlier than they were expected to.

MORE INSIDE:
Final Four photo essay on page B2 highlights the Mastodons fight.

"Senior year, last shot, last rally — it's been great for me to be able to experience it with the guys," said senior Mike Dolga. "You have to enjoy any shot that you have. There aren't very many people that can do that. I kept telling the guys to go out there and have fun because that's when we play."

The match itself was a letdown. Passing mistakes and the Mastodon defense's problems handling the serving of UCLA led to a sweep loss 25-30, 23-30, 28-30, aired on ESPNU and later on ESPN2.

To ask sophomore C.J. Macias, who earlier in the week had been named to the All-American Second Team, the story of the loss was simple and could be credited to an entirely different type of play from the team.

"When we were playing well, we played just as well as them, but they played consistently that well the entire match," Macias said.

But one look in the direction of the IPFW bench told a story all of its own as smiles beamed and jokes were cracked. Even in the post-game press conference, Ball was showcasing the fun loving and jovial side that he rarely, if ever, portrays to the media. That day in University Park was about more than just a match, it was about experience and it was about fun.

▶ VOLLEYBALL: Page A2

Photo by Chou Ryan /

FINALITY: [illegible]

GLOBAL: Highlighting tragic events half-way around the world area students opted to slept on a gymnasium floor. The Invisisible Children, a non-profit organization, helped host events like this in 136 cities around the nation.

Photo by Allison Graber / news@ipfwcommunicator.org

Facing the invisible children

By Allison Graber
news@ipfwcommunicator.org

On Sanurday, over 280 people from the community gathered to march in Fort Wayne for the Global Night Commute. The goal of this event was to raise awareness about the atrocities children face in Northern Uganda.

Spectators could see shadowlike figures walking down the street carrying signs with sayings like, "Tonight we lie down on the same earth, only separated by miles." The walk lasted for three and a half miles. The event ended the next morning after about 80 people slept outside in the rain.

The non-profit organization, The Invisible Children, planned the event. Over 136 cities participated with thousands marching through the streets.

The name of the march, the Global Night Commute, relates directly to the plight of the young children in Northern Uganda.

In Uganda, the Lord's Resistance Army, led by Joseph Kony, wants to take over the country. With the adult population tired of the war, these rebels rely on kidnapping children and brainwashing them to become fighters for their cause. Fearing for their lives, thousands of children commute to the center of town every night for safety.

Thousands of children have been abducted and forced to kill other children or adults. With little press coverage of these child soldiers, Invisible Children has set out to make the children of Uganda known to the world.

The organization had its beginnings from a small-time documentary project in Northern Uganda created by three young men.

Oprah aired the story of the Invisible Children in Northern Uganda and interviewed Evaline, a current member of the Fort Wayne community, who was abducted to become a soldier for the LRA. She was wounded and found her way to Fort Wayne through a mission organization.

Darrell Gerig, Evaline's host father, said, "We in America live in our nice little world." He went on to add that because of this separation it is difficult to comprehend what is going on.

IPFW held a screening of the documentary, "The Invisible Children," this past week and some students from IPFW were in attendance at the GNC.

In the documentary, one child asks the men behind the camera not to forget about the children in Northern Uganda.

Alair Mitchell, one of coordinators for the Fort Wayne march, said, "The children in Uganda are just as valuable as children everywhere. This atrocity can be ended if the people in the community will let the government know that this is something important."

People at the event wrote letters to

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The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing/major or title (if applicable). Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication.

All submissions made via email will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, and no more than 700 words.

The editorial board of The Communicator reserved the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style, and clarity. Letters deemed potentially libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.

▶ VOLLEYBALL
From Page A1

"They were better than us," Ball exclaimed with a wry smile on his face at the press conference. "That's all I have to say. I'm done. I'm out of here."

A few laughs later, Ball was back to business yet still refused to act too straight-laced as the press conference continued.

It was the first time since 1999 that IPFW had been back to the Final Four and had struggled to stay above .500 for the past three years despite being one win from the Final Four last spring. The Mastodons lost to Ohio State in last year's Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association, but beat the Buckeyes twice this year in the regular season.

The trip to the Final Four, while a surprise to most, was a fitting end to a strong season in which IPFW won 20 matches for the first time since the 1999 team reached the Final Four. They also broke a school record in consecutive matches won with 16.

During the course of the streak, the Mastodons dominated usual MIVA powerhouses Ball State and Ohio State.

"During this whole streak, we have just kind of been focused on taking one game at a time," said Ullrich in April during the streak.

Post-streak, the Mastodons also topped eventual national runner-up Penn State for win number 20. Three wins later, they had conquered the MIVA Tournament and were back to the Final Four.

Even when the team fell behind in the third game of their meeting with UCLA, they tried to stay strong with their emotions and enjoy the trip for what it was.

"I'm a positive person when it comes to this kind of stuff. Volleyball is such a game of momentum that you can swing points by just your attitude," Daiga said. "I was trying to give the guys a lift and do as much as I can and that's a hard role to play but it can really change games."

Ball saw the same, but also noticed his team beginning to play to their age (mostly sophomores), unlike how they had for much of the season.

"I suppose we handled it a lot like sophomore kids and a team that has never been there before would handle it," he said.

"Obviously I'm disappointed because I thought that we would play better than we played. Ryan (Perrote) and I and the staff have been there before so we know kind of what to expect. In their case, it's probably not fair because they don't know what to expect necessarily and it is pretty overwhelming."

Overwhelming, in addition to the Final Four experience, was playing against a seasoned UCLA team who was the runner-up team last year and won their 19th national title under legendary coach Al Scates this season. Scates has spent 44 years coaching volleyball on the collegiate level and led UCLA to a 26-12 record after starting the season at 12-12.

The Bruins used a balanced attack from Steve Klosterman (14 kills, seven digs), Damien Scott (10 kills) and three more hitters with at least seven kills. The team also outblocked IPFW, something that had rarely been done in the midst of the Mastodons 23-7 season.

"IPFW never really quit," Scates said. "They showed a lot of fight and spirit, as you would expect from a team coached by Arnie Ball."

For Ball, the trip signified something new and something quite different for his team. They have struggled to bring in certain types of talent to the program since the department's switch to Division I in 2001. According to the 26-year coach, the successful season shows that trend coming to an end.

"I think so," Ball simplistically commented, when asked if the Final Four run meant the resurgence of IPFW as a volleyball power.

"We really expected it to happen next year. We knew this group of young kids we had coming in was going to be good, we just kind

▶ CHILDREN
From Page A1

President Bush as well as to senators asking for action to stop the kidnapping and human rights violations.

For more information about Invisible Children or about the children in Northern Uganda, go to www.invisiblechildren.com.

Photo Contributed / news@ipfwcommunicator.org

LYING DOWN: Alair Mitchell, part of the planning committee for the march, and Evaline, a Ugandan who was forced to be a child soldier, laughing at the Global Night Commute.

The Union is victorious again

Once a year men play dress up in the Summit City and play with guns. They sleep in tents and role-play to their hearts content. Then they re-enact the Civil War.

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From battle re-enactments to weddings the 30th Indiana travel around the United States participating in events to educate the public and keep history alive.

The 30th Indiana is a non-political union lead by David Shackelford of the Cumberland Guard. Once a year the 30th Indiana participate in a weekend of battle re-enactments at Shoaff Park.

Photos by Eugene Harding / news@ipfwcommunicator.org

GET INVOLVED: To become a Home front civilian re-enactor one must contact Ms. Lee Frinzi at leef316@earthlink.net. The Indiana 30th is always looking for participants who long to live like their in the 1860s. Log on to their site via the Internet at www.30thindiana.org for more information on how to enlist or where to catch the next re-enactors.

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Improved IPFW Concert series to continue in fall

By Dan Vance
djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

In recent years, the Student Activities Board and their concert committee have presented many events for students including hosting O.A.R, Good Charlotte and Dashboard Confessional at the Memorial Coliseum over the past three years.

This past semester, the concert committee, led by Corinne Swanson, began another set of concerts featuring local artists to accent the annual spring concert.

The Skip-a-Thursday concert series began with a test run during this semester, hosting many bands including Blame it on Rio and Color by Numbers at the amphitheatre just outside Walb Student Union.

The concerts were held every other Thursday at the end of the semester, but Swanson hopes to expand and continue the series into the fall.

"I've been getting away without having an organization behind me. I thought the concert committee was, but since it's an adhoc of the SAB, it's not an official organization. So I have to get an organization to back me up," Swanson said. "Once I get that all figured out, I want to have more in the summer and we'll see what happens." Swanson's current plan for the fall is to hold the event every other week and then bring in a more well-known up and coming act at the end of the semester.

She hopes that students will vote on the local bands all semester so the winning band can open for the up and coming act at semester's end.

Because of the interest from students, average attendance for Skip-a-Thursday is around 85; Swanson believes that continuing to bring in local bands will continue to draw students to spend more time outside of class on campus.

"I actually had a few hostile students," Swanson said of when she was surveying students about their thoughts on who to bring to IPFW for the annual spring concert. "They would put none on the survey and be like 'get some good music in here' or 'less mainstream' or things like that."

As far as where the events will take place, Swanson believes that the amphitheater will continue to be an ideal location because of the sound and the relaxing nature of the area, where many come with blankets to just sit and watch the bands.

"Originally it was going to be at the pavilion; then I thought that there would be a better atmosphere at the amplitheatre," Swanson said about the venue for the concerts. According to Swanson, she came up with that idea after hearing great reviews about the concert of a Dave Matthews cover band that took place in the fall of 2004.

But for all of this to take place, the committee behind Skip-a-Thursday will need to continue to grow to help get the word out to more of the campus. "I got everything done in a day for the first show which everyone wasn't really too happy about that," Swanson said. "I would like to get my own committee and have them help promote it. We need to get better promoting for it."

Currently, the concert committee is also looking into starting an annual fall semester concert, much like the spring concert that brought Dashboard Confessional to Fort Wayne at the end of April.

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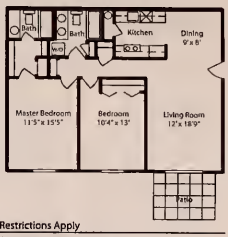

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Good, bad and ugly of the summer movie monopoly

Commentary

By Tiffany Dirig
tdirig@ipfwcommunicator.org

Finally, the semester has drawn to a close. I've been looking forward to this day since Jan. 9! There are so many reasons why I take pleasure in the end of classes. I mean, there's the obvious no-more-school-for-a-few-weeks thing, but really I look forward to the summer theatrical releases. The blockbusters always come out during the summer months. Now, naturally, not every flick that comes out during the three month hiatus (unless if, like me, you're hitting the books during Session I and/or II) is going to be a winner. A few are bound to be stinkers. But how can you tell? We're inundated with previews and trailers before that fateful Friday premier. So how do you decide? That's where I come in. I want to help with that what-ARE-we-going-to-see-this-weekend question flashing in your mind like a grand marquee sign.

For each month we're away, I'll give you three movies. There will be one that I think looks good, one that I think looks awful, and one that I just can't decide on. Like everything else I write, this is just my opinion and there's a massive possibility that I could be mistaken about the movies I categorize. But I'm usually pretty accurate. Who knows? There's always room for failure.

May

BAD: "Poseidon" – release date May 12.

This movie has "suck" written all over it. First and foremost, it's not only a re-make, it's a re-make of a re-make of a re-make (there's also a ridiculous sequel squirreled away in there). Any time an idea has been re-done four times in a little over 30 years, it's never a good sign. Now, I have never seen the original ("The Poseidon Adventure") from 1972. But I hear that it was quite entertaining. Sadly, "Beyond the Poseidon Adventure" — the 1979 sequel — wasn't met with as much enthusiasm. Nor was the 2005 made-for-television movie starring ... well ... starring O-list actors. Knowing that none of the subsequent "Poseidon" films have ever done as well as the original, what do the geniuses at Warner Brothers decide to do? Make another one, of course! Why not? Fourth time's a charm, right? Word to the wise, the saying is "third (emphasis on third) time's a charm." If it didn't work the third time, I seriously doubt it's going to work the fourth time.

If, however, you're interested in what this movie's all about, I'll give you the rundown. It revolves around a cruise ship called — you guessed it — Poseidon that gets smacked by a colossal wave, thus flipping the ship upside-down. It's up to the dashing leading men (namely Josh Lucas, Kurt Russell, Richard Dreyfuss and Andre Braugher) to save the day and the ladies (who include Fergie — HA! — Emmy Rossum — gag me — and Mia Maestro — that chick from "Alias").

Just thinking about the weak plot and weaker performers (no offense to Mr. Dreyfuss and Mr. Braugher) makes me want to roll around on the floor in a fit of hysterics. I almost want to see it just to laugh ... almost.

UNDECIDED: "The Da Vinci Code" — release date May 19.

I just can't get a good reading on this movie. I mean, director Ron Howard is taking a mighty big chance turning the controversial novel into a film. This movie could be great or could be dreadful. I don't see it landing somewhere in between. I think it's definitely an "all-or-nothing" movie. These are the flicks that you expect to be awesome then bite or vice versa, but it's either one extreme or the other. Very rarely will you find an "it-was-OK" rating. Don't get me wrong, I think it looks good, but I'm still leery.

By now, I'm sure most (if not all) of you know what "The Da Vinci Code" is about. But if you don't, here's the story of the movie in a nutshell. A Harvard symbologist, Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks), is vacationing in Paris when he gets an urgent, midnight call that summons him to the Louvre. Once there, he finds the corpse of a curator. Near the body is a mysterious cipher that leads Langdon and cryptologist Sophie Neveu (Audrey Tautou) on a hunt to find secrets that have supposedly been hidden right before our eyes for centuries.

True, it sounds incredibly intriguing, but I just don't know. We'll all just have to see it and then make up our minds.

GOOD: "X-Men: The Last Stand" — release date May 26.

Now, before you starting laughing at my decision to label the final installment of the "X-Men" trilogy as "good," hear me out. I have a long and deep affection for those crazy mutants. I watched the cartoon as a kid every Saturday morning. Actually, my whole family did. So when the first movie came out in 2000, we were all pretty stoked. And like every other female that saw that flick, I fell head-over-heels for Hugh Jackman's Wolverine. Was it a good movie? Not particularly, but it sure was fun.

The second one ushered in some new

▶ SUMMER: *Page A6*

Local band turns it up a notch on recent E.P

■ *Blame it on Rio continues development with E.P produced in New York by John Nacliero*

Album Review

By Dan Vance
djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

It's been awhile since Blame It on Rio put out their most recent release "The Art of Saving Yourself," but it is never too late to pay certain homage to a band that has come as far as this Fort Wayne based band has over the past four years.

They have two different members playing bass and drums now, but mainstays Jonny Katt and Josh Hatfield surely get it done on this 2005 released five-song E.P. The disc was recorded in New York where the band worked with John Nacliero. The direction of Nacliero and the mastering of Tim Bushong give Blame it on Rio a crisp and solid sound that is better than most of its kind anywhere.

"What I meant to Say" is the strongest track on the disc with a distinct Senses Fail-esque opening that immediately is engulfed by that same unique Blame it on Rio flavor — with much more maturity and growth. Over the years, I have thought that vocals had been the main thing keeping this band from falling in that category of great area acts. But after listening to this song, I am not sure that anything keeps them from that category anymore.

The third track "Still I am Nothing," is very friendly on the level of most music in this genre, but the band still takes risks vocally and they definitely pay off with a solid sound that doesn't sound exactly like anything else out there. And with all of the punk-ish bands out today, having diversity and bringing something different to the table are the only things to separate the pretenders from the genuine strong-suited bands of tomorrow.

"From the Beginning" delves into the harder, screamier Blame it on Rio but in no way makes you want to pop your eardrums like many screamy bands do. Hatfield does his screaming the right way throughout this disc.

Every track brings something of its own and makes you salivate at the idea of a full-length release from this band. They have come a long way since doing covers of Brian Adams songs and I can only imagine that they will continue to get better with time. And not only does their music sound good, they have the right attitude in an age where bands of their genre get famous and a little too big for their britches.

"I don't want to be on TRL on the hour, I don't want 40,000 plays on the radio. I just want to sell records and be out there touring," Hatfield told me during a recent interview.

With that attitude and continuing to do things their way and for the right reasons, there is no reason that Blame it on Rio can't hit amazing highs during their time together.

Photo by Dan Vance / djvance@ipfwcomunicator.org

LEAD: Blame it on Rio lead singer/ guitarist Jonny Katt.

▶ BIOR
From Page A8

According to the band, Katt and Hatfield wrote down the notes for him on the way to the venue. Even more interesting was that Barker was still learning the music and during that show listened to music on a CD player between live songs.

"We'd play a song and then Josh and I would be talking and Aaron would put the headphones on," Katt added. "But they are both good musicians, so we knew they would pick it up real quick."

"Me and Aaron coming from a harder sound, I knew it was going to be a little bit different but it wasn't hard. It took a little bit for us to get settled with how they sounded and how we have been playing."

As they continue to stay true to the music, the band will hit the road for a tour again this summer, something that they have not done since October of 2005. And the tour is where the true "do-it-yourself" flavor of Blame it on Rio comes in as they choose to steer clear of booking agencies and plan the summer tour all on their own.

"There are a lot of bad people who say that they will do things, like book tours, and never follow through with anything," Katt said.

So while Hatfield and Barker work on their full time jobs and Shaw has two businesses of his own, Katt takes on the brunt of the planning for Blame it on Rio. While finding places that would have big turnouts and have a good music scene, Katt already has a month or so of the tour planned spanning through the Midwest, the east coast and several dates on the gulf side of Florida.

Touring has been the bread and butter of the band for many years and their music has earned them spots on the Vans Warped Tour and more recently at a show on the Taste of Chaos Tour.

"That (Taste of Chaos) was fun because when we were done, we could go see bands like As I Lay Oying. It was like getting into a really cool show for free and you get to play," Katt said.

"Everything was all setup and all professional," Shaw added of the appeal of the larger tours that the band has had chances to be a part of.

When the touring gets to a stopping point, the band will return to the studio to write and record more music before shopping themselves to a label. While they are signed with Thriving Records, Hatfield noted that it is basically only a promotional contract. Currently, the only label that the band has had listen to their recordings is Drive-Thru Records, whom Hatfield says told them that they were "too screamy."

"With each album, our songwriting skills get better, vocals get better, techniques get better. With our next demo or CD or whatever we do, want to try to come up with something that is not so much different, but adds something to the music community."

Hatfield added that one of the great appeals of Blame it on Rio's music is that everything they record in the studio is what they do live. The band does not use synthetic methods to add to their music and do not want what they do in the studio to take away from their live performances.

The next album is also done in hopes that they will be named to AP's "Bands you Should Know" in 2007, something that has been a goal of Blame it on Rio for a couple of years now.

"We just want to make this our day job. Where every band says that, a lot of bands don't follow through with the things they need to do to have that happen," Hatfield said. "There are like 50,000 bands out there that are way better than you, so you have to bust your ass."

How well...

Do the members of Blame it on Rio know eachother? When asked who their own musical influences are, the band didn't hesitate to answer for eachother.

- Jonny: "I think Josh's is Saves the Day and Nirvana"
- Josh: "I'm going to say that Jonny's is MXPX and Green Day"
- Aaron: "Rob Zombie and Metallica, that's Brandon's."
- Brandon: "Ever since I first started playing guitar is was Metallica, Rob Zombie and Nine Inch Nails. All the stuff that mom didn't want me to listen to because it was too hard or I wasn't old enough to listen to."
- Aaron: "I would listen to every music just to listen to the drums."

▶ RODGERS
From Page A8

played with my fear of spiders, "The Exorcist," well I'm Catholic so you do the math. But "Jaws" actually implemented a phobia into me. That being a fear of deep water and being eaten by a large predatory animal that has a taste for my loins. Thus, "Jaws" has scared me into not swimming. It has scared me into not partaking in the greatest summer tradition of all.

For those of you, much like my girlfriend, who have not seen "Jaws," the name says it all. There is a large, man-eating shark that is swimming around this tiny New England island and has a habit of killing people. It takes out a kid, a dog, a couple of fisherman and after a long and lengthy hunt that produced some of the greatest cinematic lines ever ("You're gonna need a bigger boat" and Quint's long diatribe about the U.S.S. Indianapolis) all culminates in the shark being blown up by an oxygen tank. Not exactly the most prolific end to one of the cinema world's most notorious bad guys, but still good enough.

"Jaws" is not only the pinnacle of '70s cinema but it is also a benchmark for which movies now can compare themselves. Its accomplishments, even with an animatronics in the form of a clunky, extremely fake looking shark provided one of the greatest plots of all time and to this day still succeeds in freaking people out. The use of a first person eyeball view of the shark attacking its victims still leaves no room for it to be classified as yet another hokey B-movie.

In 2006, as summer is looming before me and I sit looking out over the pond of my apartment, I sit and wonder about going swimming. One, I will look at the waves on the Pacific or Atlantic oceans and take a dip. I will bask in the glory of a great summertime activity that was once ruined for me by a '70s horror movie. I will dive underneath the water and hopefully not come face to face with something that has more teeth than brains. But until that day happens, when I conquer my fear of deep water and the idea of being eaten alive I will sit back on my balcony and think one thing:

Thank God I live in flat, dry, landlocked Indiana.

Photo Courtest of IMDB / arts@ipfwcommunicator.org

THE SWIM: The original summer blockbuster has sent fears through viewers for years.

▶ KINGDOM
From Page A5

white oldie cartoon); Mickey, Pete.

Port Royal (Pirates of the Caribbean): Jack Sparrow, Elizabeth, Will Turner, Captain Barbossa.

Agrabah: Aladdin, Jasmine, Iago, Genie, Jafar, Abu.

Halloween Town(Nightmare Before Christmas): Jack, Sally, the mayor, Oogie Boogie, Lock, Stock, Barrel, Santa.

The Pride Lands (Lion King): Simba, Nala, Timón, Pumba, Scar, Hyenas, Rafiki.

Atlantica (The Little Mermaid): Ariel, Flounder, Sebastian, King Triton.

The battle system:

Battling is very easy once you get used to the new system. The triangle is the new reaction feature which will allow you to dodge attacks easier as well as perform limit breaks with your allies. You still scroll down to select what you want to do (like attack or use items or magic). New shortcuts for magic and items also make reaching necessities in the thick of battle very easy, and items can be automatically restocked after each battle.

The controls:

The controls are awkward at first, but by the time you get to play with Sora you should be comfortable with how everything works. Camera angles are much improved upon as they are automatically done or you can adjust them to your taste with the right analog stick. This is very helpful because Donald and Goofy no longer block your view. You can still use first person to look around, but when you do your character moves too.

Expressing heart, true vivid emotions make this E.P. anything but a failure

Album Review

By Dan Vance
djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

Look out world, Heart of a Failure is back.

You may not recognize their sound or even their name, but Heart of a Failure is everything that a Fort Wayne band should be once they reach the thriving music world outside of Indiana.

Formerly known as Blue Background, the three local musicians — Sarah Mick (vocals, guitar), Maggie Tielker (keyboards, vocals) and Chris Christen (bass) along with Carlyle Nowak (drums) have released a new E.P. that sends your mind in spirals. And that is not a bad thing at all.

Recorded in North Hollywood, California, "A Final Flight" takes so many chances that Heart of a Failure has never taken before with their music. The new direction pays off by entrancing a whole new type of audience while bringing the old fans along for the enjoyable ride, or flight as it may be.

Anybody who is a fan of the band's older work will be taken immediately aback with the guitar riff that starts off the disc with the song "Love to Regret." The guitars hit hard and are quite welcome despite their high level of unexpectedness. The different levels and works of vocals between Mick and Tielker adds so much to a track that makes a bold statement of Heart of a Failure's new attitude.

This track may be the best lyrically as well. "I've made my final attempt at keeping everyone happy ..." the opening line of the song has Mick announcing her independence to the world in a boastful and melodic way.

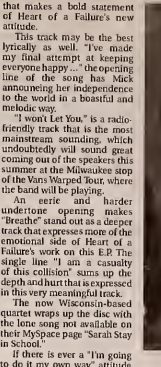
"I won't Let You," is a radio-friendly track that is the most mainstream sounding, which undoubtedly will sound great coming out of the speakers this summer at the Milwaukee stop of the Vans Warped Tour, where the band will be playing.

An eerie and harder undertone opening makes "Breathe" stand out as a deeper track that expresses more of the emotional side of Heart of a Failure's work on this E.P. The single line "I am a casualty of this collision" sums up the depth and hurt that is expressed in this very meaningful track.

The now Wisconsin-based quartet wraps up the disc with the lone song not available on their MySpace page "Sarah Stay in School."

If there is ever a "I'm going to do it my own way" attitude drive track, this is it. "Sarah Stay in School" is the picture of everything that Heart of a Failure has become, should be proud of being and what will separate them from everyone else.

One of the best things about this disc is that all of the songs are the kind that you can sing along with and bob you head to without being cheesy and so monotonously mainstream. It is truly a disc that you wish did not end after four songs and I can't wait to hear where this increasingly strong band will take their flight next.



Courtesy Photo / arts@ipfwcommunicator.org

LOCAL TALENTS: Heart of a Failure is (clockwise from top left): Carlyle Nowak, Maggie Tielker, Sarah Mick and Chris Christen.

An epic concert for the Philharmonic

By Louisa Danielson
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Epic means large. It can be an epic story, like Homer's "Ovid," or it can be an epic piece of music, like Brahms' Symphony No. 1 in C minor.

Listeners were treated to a sampling of the latter form of epic Saturday night, April 22 at the Embassy Theater as the Fort Wayne Philharmonic presented an evening of music by Johannes Brahms and Richard Strauss.

First on this evening's concert was the Strauss Josephslegende Op. 63 – "Symphonic Fragment." This fragment filled the entire first half of the concert and displayed the orchestra at its full strength, requiring not only the usual amount of strings, brass, etc. but also requiring two harpists and six percussionists. This piece was originally written by Richard Strauss for the Russian impresario Serge Diaghilev. Set to premier in Paris in 1914, this story was a loose illustration of the Biblical story of Joseph. Strauss formed the "Symphonic Fragment" from portions of the original work in 1947.

This piece was full of color tones that brought the splendor of ancient Hollywood Egypt to perfection. Grand fanfares, delicate solos and interludes filled the piece with restless energy. Although the harmony was not in the traditional style of some of the earlier composers, it was pleasant and added a feeling of normalcy to this rather unique piece.

Following the intermission, the Philharmonic performed the Brahms Symphony in C minor. Brahms was originally reluctant to create a symphony, saying, "I shall never compose a symphony. You have no idea how it feels to hear behind you the tramp of a giant like Beethoven."

However, Brahms did write a symphony. It was labeled "The Tenth," implying a continuation of Beethoven's nine symphonies.

The sheer mass of this symphony held some similarities to the works of Beethoven: the mournful melody of the first movement was reminiscent of Beethoven's Pastorale.

Of special interest was the pizzicato in the fourth movement; the string section seemed to be taking the notes slowly when the conductor would suddenly accelerate them with wild gyrations. The melody of the fourth movement may be the most familiar part of this symphony. It had an open sound that created pictures or images of a royal procession or an open vault of space.

The concert closed as conductor Tchivzhel recognized soloists and applause grew to a thundering downpour. This concert was broadcast on WBNI 88.7 FM on May 11 at 8 p.m.

Senior BFA exhibit shined at Kachmann Gallery

Gallery Review

By Natalie Webb
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The grand opening for the Visual Communication and Design Senior Bachelor's of Fine Arts was held at the Kachmann Gallery on Friday, April, 22, 2006.

The evening was a perfect atmosphere for talented and artistic individuals to display their work. Upon entering the Kachmann Gallery guests were greeted with the light and lively sounds of an acoustic guitar.

The walls of the gallery were lined with graphic design, photography, illustration, 3-D graphics, and computer animation. These art forms were used to create advertisements, letterheads, business cards, restaurant layouts, menus, magazine layouts, collages, self portraits, animated skits, comic books, illustrations for children's books, and merchandise.

Twenty-two seniors are exhibiting their projects at the Kachmann Gallery. The graduating seniors that are exhibiting their work include Michael Adams, Shannon Billington, Nicole Cassell, Kyle Creighton, Andrea Dailey, William Elliott, Jenna Everson, John Ross Fawley, Justin Garrison, Sean Griffith, Anthony Harrell, Daniel Harrington, Debra Kinnity, Angela Kramer, John Paul Ladd, Adam Makinson, Destiny Mellon, Rigel Pilz, Jessica J. Porter, Andrea Sonnenberg, Shannon E. Teders, and Laura Leigh Wiseman.

Senior Visual Communication and Design student, Nicole Cassell, said that the students spent many late evenings and a great deal of hard work to get ready for this event.

Artwork by John Ladd

This gallery is an absolutely awesome display of the hard work that these graduating seniors have produced.

All projects were on display from April 21 to May 6.

Second installment of Kingdom Hearts uses fresh concepts

Game Review

By Christina Johnson
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The story:

You first start to play the game with a new character called Roxas. You find him at a place where Roxas and his friends hang out. They talk about how things have been stolen around town and how Seifer (from Final Fantasy VIII) is telling the townspeople that you and your friends are the thieves. You go out to town to try to prove your innocence when you run into Seifer and his gang. You fight him and win while your friend Pence takes a picture of your victory. Suddenly, something whirls by and steals the camera. You chase it and try to fight it but your attacks are to no avail. Suddenly when all seems lost, a strange weapon called the Keyblade appears in your hands. You fight the monster again, and win. You take back the photos and find out that they were all of you. The following days, you will get a job to help pay for a trip to the beach, win a struggle tournament, investigate urban legends for a school project and discover the meaning behind the odd events that have been occurring in the town.

You only have six game days to play as Roxas, and then he will vanish. Soon afterward Sora is woken up by his friends Donald and Goofy. They explore the town and find out that the king is in town as well. They rush over to see him when they are surrounded by monsters. After a couple of rounds, they collapse to the ground and the king saves them and tells them to go visit a wizard friend of his. They do so and find out that a new enemy has arisen. They then go to various Disney worlds to try to stop the villains, but soon realize that something is amiss. The new villains, people garbed in black cloaks, keep calling Sora, Roxas, and what's worse, they control the new monsters that have been appearing in all the worlds. To complicate matters, Pete and the Heartless are still trying to take over all of the worlds so they can claim Kingdom Hearts for their own.

The following is a list of the worlds and the familiar characters that are in them:

Twilight Town: This is Roxas's town. It has his friends, townspeople and Seifer and his gang.

Hollow Bastion; Merlin, Tron, Winnie the Pooh and friends, Scrooge, Cid (FF7), Yuffie (FF7), Squall (FF8), Yuna, Rikku, Rikku (FFX-2), Aerith(FF7), Cloud (FF7) and Sephiroth (FF7).

The Land of Dragons: Mulan, Mushu and other Mulan characters.

Beast's Castle: The Beast, Belle and the other characters.

Olympus Coliseum: Hercules, Phil, Meg, Pegasus, Hades, Pain, Panic and Auron(FFX).

Disney Castle: Chip, Dale, Minnie, Daisy and Merlin.

Timeless River (black and

▶ KINGDOM: Page A4

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Ten albums to revolutionize the summer of 2006

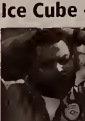
-compiled by Dan Vance, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Angels & Airwaves - "We don't need to Whisper"

With the so-called "side projects" all done and gone for the members of Blink 182, and that band's future now being non-existant, comes Angels and Airwaves, the new band by former Blink guitarist Tom Delonge.

The album is much anticipated in every punk and pop-punk circle this side of the moon and early critics say that this anticipation is warranted. The disc comes out on May 23 and should be blaring from your car stereo all summer long.

Ice Cube - "Laugh Now, Cry Later"

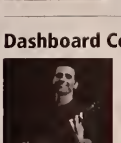


Little is known about the new and likely last release of this rap legend, but all the news is good from what has been heard.

With the new album coming out on June 6, Cube has promised collaborations with Snoop and Lil Jon as well as being vocal about the album being mostly about having fun and enjoying life. This will be a rare opportunity, seeing as how most of his discs have been darker and always labeled as "gansta rap."

Cube is taking some chances with this release.

Obie Trice - "Second Round's On Me"



The long awaited follow-up to "Cheer" will hit stores on May 30. It has been a quiet road for the Eminem understudy since his last release. He has not gotten very involved in the Murder Inc/Ja Rule beef that many of his Shady/Aftermath brothers have been involved in.

The first single, "Snitch," which features Akon is available now on I-Tunes and gives an indication that Dbie will not stray far from the comical and cyenical hip-hop that made him what he is.

Army of Freshmen - "Under the Radar"

Army of Freshman is a little-known band that is only really popular (and known for that matter) by the Warped Tour-like crowds.

Their last release came two years back and the fans of the punk-rap-techno oriented band have been feverishly awaiting a new disc which comes in the form of this summer's "Under the Rader." The disc itself has already been released in Iapan.

The first single and video "Juliet" is out in the U.S. and has given fans a nice dose of something new.

Dashboard Confessional - TBD

One of the most anticipated dises of all of 2006 is the June 27 release of the yet-to-be-titled disc of Dashboard Confessional.

Frontman Chris Carraba has been giving fans a glimpse of things on his small tour of colleges over the later part of the spring semester at campuses nationwide.

All sounds good thus far. A single has already been released to radio and the emo fans worldwide are ready to see what turn Carraba takes next with his always strong lyrical workings.

50 Cent - TBD

If little is known about Ice Cube's release, even less is known about what is next from Mr. "In Da Club."

50 Cent has been all but completely silent about the new project which follows last year's "The Massacre." The rapper's following has been somewhat of a rollercoaster over the last year and it is hard to say what turn things will take from this point on.

The album may fall to late summer, but even that is an unknown at this point.

Ashley Parker Angel - "Soundtrack to your Life"

His television show "There and Back" was a much needed re-introduction to the mainstream music world in the days of post-D-Town. It also gave supporters and doubters alike a taste of his debut solo effort.

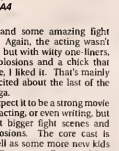
A strong mix of many musical efforts, Parker Angel is a weird mix of Justin Timberlake, Bo Bice and even a little John Mayer with his vocals and the styling of his music. The disc came out on May 16 and hopefully will help silence any doubters left.

Justin Timberlake - TBD

Besides with Cameron Díaz, a lot of people want to know when the former boy-bander has been for the past four years. Yes, it has been four years since the brilliant "Justified" graced our ears.

And now he is back with, hopefully, a new pack of radio, dance and just all-around people-friendly tracks. And trust me when I say that this disc will not get lost in the shuffle of ex-boy band singers who will release CDs this summer (i.e. Ashley Parker Angel and Nick Lachey).

DMX - "Here We Go Again"

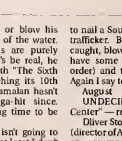


Ah, DMX. Will the album actually come out? That is the question here. While his discs and always full of strong tracks, DMX's unique lifestyle breathes some mystery into what the future will hold.

No date is set for the release as of yet and his on-again off-again legal troubles may delay some things this time around.

The one thing that is for sure is that he will need to return to his "And then there was X" roots.

Early November - "The Mother, The Mechanic, The Path"



Drive-Thru Records' resident New Jersey emo-punk quartet is releasing their triple disc package on July 11. And yes, I did say triple disc.

Breaking all kinds of boundaries with three CDs being released as part of the same release is just the icing on the cake for The Early November. The band has shown a strong progression over their many releases including 2003's first and only full-length release "The Room Is Too Cold." They will likely continue to grow and be more unique on these dises.

▶ SUMMER
From Page A4

characters and some amazing fight sequences. Again, the acting wasn't astounding; but with witty one-liners, kick-ass explosions and a chick that wouldn't die, I liked it. That's mainly why I'm excited about the last of the "X-Men" saga.

I don't expect it to be a strong movie in terms of acting, or even writing, but I do expect bigger fight scenes and better explosions. The core cast is back, as well as some more new kids (i.e. Kelsey Grammer as Beast and Ben Foster as Angel). In this one, a cure has been found to treat mutations, pitting Professor Xavier's X-Men against Magneto's Brotherhood. It should make for a fun trip to the theatre!

June

GOOD: "The Break-Up" — release date June 2.

You may be asking why I deemed this highly anticipated movie starring love-birds Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn as "good." Five words: Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn. Vaughn never ceases to make me laugh, no matter how stupid the movie is. Pair that with Aniston's impeccable timing and you've got the makings of a laugh-out-loud comedy, I hope!

The story itself is humorous. Brooke (Aniston) dumps Gary (Vaughn), but both refuse to move out of the condo they share. So, as in any good comedy, they take advice from friends, family and even total strangers. Neither budges until they realize that they may not be fighting to get rid of the other, but, rather, to keep them. That just breeds silly, stupid situations and Vaughn's dry wit. Sure, it may not rake in everyone's movie money, but it'll get mine.

BAD: "The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift" — release date June 16.

Do I even need to tell you why this is going to bad or the premise of this crap-fest? I didn't think so.

UNDECIDED: "Superman Returns" – release date June 30.

I don't know. I just don't know. I mean, the plot is weak, but it IS a Superman movie. It's centered on the return (obviously) of the Man of Steel (Brandon Routh). Apparently, he's left us poor slobs on Earth to fend for ourselves. But he comes back - only to find the love of his life, Lois Lane (Kate Bosworth), has moved on with her life. Add that to the fact that Superman's arch nemesis (I really love that word), Lex Luthor (Kevin Spacey), is fresh out of prison and has a few trick up his sleeve to eliminate Superman once and for all.

Here's the problem, it's akin to every Superman movie, television show, comic, book, etc. ever created. Of course, it does have Kevin Spacey in it. Then again, Spacey's presence didn't save "K-Pax." My advice, watch at your own risk.

July

GDDD: "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" — release date July 7.

I loved the first one. I absolutely loved it. Even though I was seriously depressed by the fact that a man could look so much better in eyeliner than me, but oh well. Anyway, if this one is half as enjoyable as the first, I say it's a hit!

In the second of a three-part series (yup, the last one comes out sometime next year), Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) is back. This time, however, he has a blood debt to pay to the infamous Davy Jones. As Jack wiggles his way in and out of danger, he mangles the wedding plans of Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley).

All right, I'll agree that it's a seemingly ludicrous plot. But wasn't the first one?

UNDECIDED: "Lady in the Water" — release date July 21.

The newest M. Night Shyamalan movie will either sink or blow his long list of stinkers out of the water (I swear; aquatic puns are purely coincidental.) And, let's be real, he needs a good one. With "The Sixth Sense" quickly approaching its 10th birthday (in 2009), Shyamalan hasn't seen a theatrical mega-hit since. That's an extremely long time to be consistently bad.

"Lady in the Water" isn't going to be similar to his others; at least I don't think it will. From what I can tell it's more of a story for children. (I know this because IMDb.com says he originally wrote the tale for his kids.) The plot goes a little something like this: Cleveland Heep (Paul Giamatti) is the superintendent of an apartment building who rescues a young woman (Bryce Dallas Howard — Ron Howard's daughter) from the complex's pool. Soon, he discovers that she is actually a bedtime storybook character who is trying to return home. Cleveland works with his tenants to help The Lady battle those who want to keep her here. Naturally, in the process he falls in love with her.

I've watched the trailer several times and it looks quite sweet, for lack of a better term. In true M. Night Shyamalan fashion, the trailer provokes curiosity. I'd be disappointed if it didn't.

BAD: "Miami Vice" — release date July 28.

Wow. I don't even know where to begin. I loved the quintessential '80s cop drama, but a movie made almost 20 years after it went off the air? That's pushing it ... far. I mean, Colin Farrell is a joke anyway. And one question for Jamie Foxx: are you TRYING to render your Oscar obsolete? Because you're on that road, heading full speed ahead to Sucksville!

The movie follows detectives James "Sonny" Crockett (Farrell) and Ricardo Tubbs (Foxx) as they work undercover to nail a South Florida drug and arms trafficker. Blah, blah, blah. They get caught, blow things up, shoot people, have some sex (maybe not in that order) and then the end credits roll. Again I say to you, "Wow."

August

UNDECIDED: "World Trade Center" — release date Aug. 9.

Oliver Stone is, like Paul Greengrass (director of April's "United 93"), making an assumption that the American public is ready to re-live the brutal attacks on our country, with his flick perilously premiering a little more than a month prior to the five year anniversary.

Stone could be hailed or ostracized for his attempt. He's taking a very big gamble.

It's not that the story, written by Andrea Berloff (her first major motion picture), doesn't look touching. The film is based on the true-life heroes, Sgt. John McLoughlin (Nicolas Cage) and Officer William J. Jimeno (Michael Pena from "Crash") — the last two survivors pulled from Ground Zero. And it's definitely not that the cast is weak (along with the leading men, Maria Bello and Maggie Gyllenhaal co-star). I just don't know if, as a country, we're ready to be reminded of the devastation when, for many, it's still so fresh in our minds and hearts.

BAD: "Snakes on a Plane" — release date Aug. 18.

No, I'm not kidding. I wish I was, but sadly, I'm not. Samuel L. Jackson and Julianna Margulies star is this "Anaconda" wanna-be located in the sky. It's about — what else — snakes on a plane. Shocker, I know.

I watched the trailer and had to cover my mouth as I was sitting in my cubicle at work and didn't want to disturb the people around me with my guttural guffawing.

From what I could tell, New Line Cinema and director David Ellis (the guy who was responsible for "Cellular" and "Final Destination 2") are serious about this movie...

It didn't look like a spoof a la the "Scary Movie" franchise.

I think I'd have to see it just to have the opportunity to mercilessly ridicule it!

And finally, I wanted to end on a good note.

So, without further ado, the movie that so many people have been lusting for since the first one came out 12 long years ago: "Clerks II." As it will be released the Friday before the fall semester begins, I think it goes without saying that we should consider this our last summer movie hurrah.

Starring Brian D'Halloran as Dante and Jeff Anderson as Randal as those two lazy guys we fell in love with all those years ago, it thrusts us back into their lives after 10 years have passed.

Due to a fire, the guys are off to explore new horizons ... flipping burgers at Mooby's.

Here they meet up with characters — and when I say "characters," I mean actors — that are staples in any Kevin Smith movie. Jason Mewes, Kevin Smith (duh), Jason Lee and his wife Jennifer Schwalbach Smith just to name a few. There are also some newbies to the Smith Empire - Rosario Dawson, Wanda Sykes and Kevin Weisman.

After watching several trailers, I'm even more thrilled about this movie. I giggled like a schoolgirl. It promises to be relatively comical.

So, basically — what it took me roughly 2300 words to say — this should be an interesting summer. Have a good time at the movies and I'll see you next fall.

Just for the record, I totally avoided talking about Tom Cruise's newest lame and completely narcissistic attempt to be a semi-respectable movie star on purpose.

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The Indiana-Purdue Student Government Association (IPSGA) is Comprised of a Student, Senate, Student Activities Board (SAB), and Judicial Court. The Senate and SAB groups are traditionally very active and work for the benefit of IPFW students.

- The Judicial Court is responsible for working with all policy and procedural issues pertaining to the IPSGA.
- The Student Senate is set up as a government structure, and is the voice of the students at IPFW. The Senate makes decisions about which groups to provide funding for and provides various types of support for student organizations.
- The SAB is the programming body of IPSGA. It creates and implements programs for students to attend and participate in throughout the year.

ALL YOU NEED TO DO TO JOIN SENATE OR SAB IS FILL OUT A PETITION

Upcoming Events/Activities:

Senate Meetings:

The first one this summer is June 26th at noon. During the academic year, the Senate mettings are the 1st & 3rd Monday of every month at noon.

SAB Meetings:

The first one this summer is be announced, but will be very soon! During the academic year, the SAB meetings are the 2nd & 4th Monday of every month.

Look for SAB at the Wizards game on June 9th! Free tickets in the IPSGA office while they last!

Look for IPSGA involvement at Freshmen Fest, August 18th!

Contact the IPSGA office, Walb Union Rm. 225 (260) 481-6586

THE COMMUNICATOR

A&E

Arts & Entertainment

2006 Summer Edition
vol. XXXVI, issue XXX
Page A4

A&E PAGE EDITOR

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■ SUMMERTIME
The Early November is one of the bands releasing a must-own disc this summer.
PAGE A6

■ ON DISPLAY
Senior Fine Arts students display work at Kachmann Gallery. PAGE A5

Photo submitted by Brendan Powell Smith

LEGO LIFE
of biblical proportions

Photo submitted by Brendan Powell Smith

GARDEN: Adam and Eve stand in the Garden of Eden in this particular depiction from The Brick Testament.

By Dan Vance
djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

Brendan Powell Smith remembers very vividly the first time he read the Bible as a student at Boston University. He was taken aback by the stories and the images they played in his mind.

"It was strikingly different than how I imagined it would be after a childhood of attending church and Sunday School," Smith said.

That was the original seed of inspiration that was planted in the head of the man nicknamed "The Reverend."

So in 2001, at age 26, Smith created "The Brick Testament," a Web site containing stories straight from the Bible, depicted using LEGO bricks and people.

The initial launch had just six stories from the book of Genesis and was not expected to be very big. However, Smith says he received upwards of 20,000 hits in the first two weeks after the site went public.

And while initially surprised, Smith soon realized, while constructing a depiction of The Garden of Eden, that the small project may be opening doors for something bigger.

"It occurred to me that this project might just turn out to be exactly what I was looking for a way to retell the Bible's stories in a format that would grab people's attention and interest," he said.

"This would then allow me to focus just as much attention on the many forgotten stories of the Bible as on the more endlessly retold ones."

So Smith began work on his Web site, which today contains 222 illustrated stories. He now has about half of the material covered that he wants to do for the Web site and says that he would like to one day have the entire Bible illustrated. He is currently working to revamp the "Life of Jesus" and will also work on "The Teachings of Jesus" before turning his attention to completion of the Old Testament. In the Old Testament, he will first direct his attention at the lesser known stories of King Saul, David and Solomon.

"(It is) a good thing to increase people's knowledge of the contents of the Bible in a way that is fun and appealing while staying true to the text," he said.

But not all our supports of Smith's work with The Brick Testament. And while he says the positive responses outnumber the negative ones by about 100-to-1, the majority of the negative responses are from people who find it inappropriate to illustrate a holy book with a children's toy or those who object to The Brick Testament's frank portrayal of the Bible's sexual content.

But according to Smith, the certain shock value is something that he does expect and makes him more proud of what he does.

"Having been quite shocked by much of the Bible's content myself, I'd take that as a good sign that I am being faithful to my presentations of the stories as they were originally written," he said. "I think people have become used to seeing illustrated versions of the Bible that take a free hand in altering scripture to make it more palatable to modern social mores, often at the expense of distorting the original thrust of the stories."

Many of the objectionable depictions are in "The Law" section of the Web site. The area touches on "when to stone your children," "proof of virginity," "the occult," "rape" and many other topics that many do not usually see as being addressed in the Bible.

"Many people look at the Bible as the ultimate moral guide, believing that laws God gave Moses are the rules by which society should rightly be governed and judged," Smith said.

"And yet it seems to me that most people who hold that belief are ignorant of the majority of those laws and commandments."

Smith says that "The Law" section is illustrated in a way that provides a view of what today's world would be like if these laws were followed religiously.

And while there are the negative feedbacks in some areas, Smith just plans to focus on the positive and the future of a Web site with a unique new approach.

> "I would estimate that I have spent about ten to twelve thousand dollars on LEGOs over the past five years. Most of my purchases are geared toward what I anticipate I'll need for future installments."

Blame it on Rio

■ *Local band continues to make good, prepare for another do-it-yourself summer tour*

By Dan Vance
djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

Worldwide there are local bands trying to make good, trying to find their niche on a national level.

Fort Wayne has never been an exception to that rule, nor has Blame it on Rio, a local band that has released two E.P.s and a full-length album but has had to fight often with the perils of an ever-changing lineup.

Yet standing strong are Jonny Katt and Josh Hatfield, the two originals, and now with a steady bass player and drummer, the group is looking to take Blame it on Rio to new and exciting highs.

In 2005, the group released their latest disc "The Art of Saving Yourself," an E.P. released by Thriving Records and recorded with well-respected producer John Naclerio in New York. Naclerio has also worked with bands My Chemical Romance, Senses Fail and The Ataris, among others.

"It's called the studio to get signed with," Hatfield said. "Almost every band that has recorded with him, it's been like their first release and shortly thereafter they have been able to get signed to an indie label."

Late in the year, Blame it on Rio lost another two members, including Andrew Steininger, who had recorded two albums with the band.

"It was hard because Andrew had been with us, not since the beginning, but since the beginning of when we really started taking this seriously," noted Hatfield.

But then the band added bassist Brandon Shaw and drummer Aaron Barker after their band No Call To Arms split up. The two bands had previously released a split-album together in 2004. The two, coming from a harder musical background, added a unique new side to Blame it on Rio and have fit it quite well after a quick start to their time in the band.

"We love being in Blame it on Rio," Barker said. "Brandon and I have always been jiffy and making sure that this is the way that we want to go."

Shaw's first show with the band was even more different.

Photo by Dan Vance / djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

RIO: Blame it on Rio's Josh Hatfield performs at IPFW's Skip-A-Thursday event with the group at the end of April.

Blame it on Rio

▶ **BIOR:** *Page A4*

Are you sure that you want to get into that water?

Mr. Rodgers' Neighborhood
By Tim Rodgers
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Summertime is here and I'll bet all of you are happy as clams. The endless amounts of sunshine, the summer nights spent walking with loved ones or outside playing a rousing game of baseball in the local vacant lot.

Or swimming.

Ah, swimming - the one summertime activity in which everyone can say is their favorite. The cool, refreshing dips either in a backyard swimming pool, in a lake or in the ocean always remind me of one thing. The movie "Jaws." Which is the reason to this day why I cannot set foot in the ocean without thinking before I do so.

I first saw this yarn of aquatic terror when I was a mere five years old. From beginning to end, I was terrified by the idea of being in the water and suddenly yanked downward to a watery death that usually consists of bone-crushing biting, grinding of major organs by large teeth and lots, oh yes, lots of blood. Watching as a buxom blonde is dragged tale over tea-kettle through the ocean while screaming bloody murder, only to be pulled underneath the shimmering water's surface while it turns crimson around her really prompted me to go out and jump right into the waves.

I won't lie. "Jaws" not only symbolizes a great achievement in cinema, it being the official first summer blockbuster, but it also holds a spot as the only movie to officially scare me out of doing something. Now, there have been tons of movies that have scared me or that have messed around with my phobias. "Arachnophobia"

▶ **ROGERS:** *Page A4*

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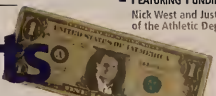
■ TIMELINE
Reliving some of the best moments for athletics in the 2005-2006 season. PAGE B4



■ FEATURING FUNDING
Nick West and Justin Kenny discuss the funding of the Athletic Department. PAGE B3

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Top of their game

2005-2006 Communicator Athletes of the Year
By Dan Vance / djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

In the Final Four puzzle that IPFW men's volleyball has become, sophomore C.J. Macias has become the integral piece, even in his first season in Mastodon blue and white.

The transfer outside hitter was ranked high nationally all year in kills and kills per game, ending the season with the most total kills in the entire country and second in kills per game. His 609 kills on the season ranks him fourth on IPFW's all-time single season kills list.

Following a solid year and an All-Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association Second Team nod last year at Findlay, Macias was named to the first team this year and was also on the MIVA All-Tournament Team. On May 3, at a Final Four week press conference in State College, Pennsylvania, Macias joined an elite list of former IPFW players to be named All-Americans. His appointment to the AVCA All-American Second Team speaks volumes about where he will lead IPFW in his remaining two seasons.

Not to mention, as just a sophomore he led IPFW to their first Final Four in seven years.

A unanimous pick for The Communicator's Male Athlete of the Year, Macias is the second men's volleyball player in a row to nab the honor.

Fabiana Souza started and finished her senior season in impressive fashion. The three-time All-Independent First Team player broke the school's all-time kill record just seven matches into the season. The new kill record set by Souza sits at 2,305 — roughly 400 more than the previous record. She also led the Mastodons to another 20-plus win season with 524 total kills (4.94 per game in 2005).

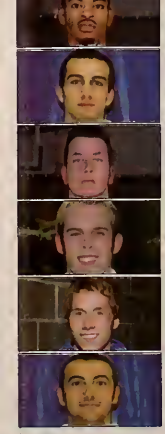
The middle hitter out of Belo Horizonte, Brazil was the Independent Offensive Player of the Week four times and took home the Independent Offensive Player of the Year honor as well. She was also on the All-Tournament team for the Hofstra Invitational and was the MVP of the Western Illinois Invitational.

Souza will return to IPFW in the fall to continue her graduate-level education in communications and serve as a graduate assistant coach for the same women's volleyball program that she has spent the last four years helping to develop into an Independent power.

Souza was the unanimous pick for The Communicator's Female Athlete of the Year for the second straight year.

The Top Ten

The Communicator sports staff voted on the most productive and impacting male and female athletes of last year. Each Communicator sports staff member formulated their own top ten list for both male and female athlete based on performance and influence to their respective programs with each athlete getting points for corresponding positions (first=10 points, second=9 and so on). These results were combined and tallied to determine the final top ten lists. These results are completely subjective and those exclusively of The Communicator.



2. RYAN KEENA - The Fort Wayne native turned into a legit professional prospect this season, ripping the base paths with 29 steals on 34 attempts. Keena was also high on the team in hitting with a .312 average in helping the baseball team to their third straight 20-plus win season. He hit his sixth career homerun in a near upset of Notre Dame.

3. DEWITT SCOTT - The redshirt sophomore had a huge first season. He led the team in scoring 14 times and was the overall leading scorer for the year with 14.2 points per game. He made a team-high 70 three-pointers and hit on 44.3 percent of three-point attempts. He was also named to the Division I All-Independent first team.

4. VICTOR WEBB - The gritty midfielder from Gloucester, England ended the season as the first IPFW soccer player to earn honors from the Mid American Conference. Webb was named to the second team, leading IPFW with six goals and three assists (15 total points). Webb took 38 shots in 2005, ranking second on the team.

5. QUINTIN CAROUTHERS - An old man in terms of IPFW basketball, Carouthers spent his fourth season as a strong-finishing swing man in averaging 11.4 points per game and scoring a career-high 23 against North Dakota State. Carouthers was named All-Independent Honorable Mention this year as a junior.

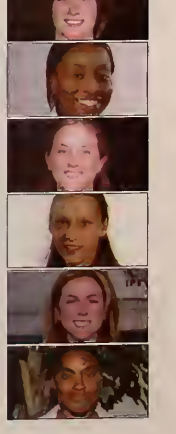
6. COLIN LUNDEEN - The junior setter finished with 1,280 assists (seventh in career assists at IPFW) in 107 games, an average of 11.96 per. Despite an admitted sub-par Final Four game against UCLA, Lundeen was pivotol to the Mastodons' success this season, setting outside hitter C.J. Macias to second team honors in All-American voting.

7. TYLER BEST - Highly regarded coming into the season, Best provided IPFW's only real stability in the post this season despite being hampered with injuries. The junior averaged 9.7 points and 4.7 rebounds per contest on his way to being named All-Independent Honorable Mention. Best scored a career high 35 against Longwood.

8. MATT FRY - At the first ever IPFW hosted golf meet, Fry tied for 15th place at +4 to help IPFW to a fourth place finish. In the spring, Fry tied for 22nd place, shooting a 229 at the Eastern Kentucky Spring Invitational. Though often not the top IPFW performer, Fry stayed consistent through both the fall and spring seasons.

9. HUNTER PARIS - The dude can run. He finished tops for IPFW in all but one cross country meet last fall. He also took first place in the St. Louis Cross Country only National Championship in September. The news gets even better: last year he was only a sophomore.

10. SERDAR SIKCA - The anchor middle hitter for coach Arnie Ball, Sikca broke the school's all-time block assist record this year and tallied up 131 block assists this year. Sikca also recorded 30 solo blocks and was second on the team in kills with 247 on his way to his third straight All-Conference First Team selection.



2. ASHLEY JOHNSON - This junior had a tremendous season for the Mastodons. She was first on the team in rebounds (5.8), assists (3.3), steals (1.6) and minutes (34.3) per game and was second in points (14.4). The second team All-Independent guard set an IPFW record by connecting on 22 free throws in one game.

3. ASHLEY RITCHEY - The junior runner started the year right in the fall as a two-time Independent Runner of the Week from cross country and placed 49th at the Division I Regional. In the spring, she picked up wins in the first three outdoor track meets and broke school records in the 5,000 meter (April 8) and 10,000 meter (April 22) runs.

4. ANIKA APAR - The Massachusetts sophomore made the top 10 list again this season because of her solid play on the soccer field. She led the team in goals (10), points (51) and shots on goal (31), was one of three players who started all 20 games and made the go-ahead goal in the final game of the USC Tournament to give IPFW the victory.

5. KACIE STONE - The catcher became a viable threat for the softball team this year, batting .319 and starting in all 42 games she played in during the 44 game season. Stone also tied for first on the team in homeruns with three and was ranked nationally in doubles per game towards the end of the season.

6. JOHNNA LEWIS-CARLISLE - Continuing to start her career on the right foot, Lewis-Carlisle led the women's basketball team in scoring in 14 of 28 games this season on her way to being named second team All-Independent. The speedy sophomore guard scored 21, 23, 23 and 22 points in four straight games mid-season.

7. JENNA BEACHY - She had the highest batting average (.338) of anyone who started more than 13 games and led the team in hits (44). She was one of three players to start all 44 games from IPFW and had to adjust to playing leftfield this season. The senior leaves IPFW as one of the program's most prolific offensive players in recent history.

8. ERIKA LEITZKE - In her only year in Mastodon blue, the senior setter played in and started all 30 matches to help the women's volleyball team to a 24-6 mark. Leitzke tallied 1,171 assists (11.1 per game) and the second team All-Independent player also led the team in service aces (38) and was fourth on the team with digs at 269.

9. SACHI JANEK - As a freshman, Janek played number one or number two singles all year and ended the regular season with a dominant singles victory against Wright State of the Horizon League. Janek went 1-3 in singles and 3-0 in doubles with partner Beth Miller at the Independent Championships, which were hosted by IPFW

10. ANGIE SUEL - Suel literally came out of nowhere to be a force for women's track and field this year. The freshman broke four records at the Akron Open on Feb. 4 and continued her streak right through the end of the season setting three more marks at Michigan State where she participated in running, throwing and jumping events.

Photos by Chad Ryan / cryan@ipfwcommunicator.org

RIGHT: Sophomores Josh Stewart and Brock Ullrich go up to block a shot by UCLA's Steve Klosterman.

BELOW: IPFW players shake hands and thank fans who attended the Final Four in University Park, Pennsylvania after the Mastodons' 3-0 loss to eventual National Champions UCLA on May 4.

Senior Mike Daiga

"Senior year, last shot, last rally...you have to enjoy any shot that you have. There aren't very many people that can do that."

The Final Fight

RIGHT: As the match with UCLA dwindles down, IPFW players (from left to right) Mike Morici, Dan McNerney, Vitor Oliveira, Brock Ullrich, Michael Quinones, Mike Daiga and Josh Stewart look on with arms on eachothers shoulders in hopes of a Mastodon comeback.

Photo by Brianna Belford / bbelford@ipfwcommunicator.org

ABOVE: Seniors Serdar Sikca and Mike Daiga hold up the MIVA Tournament championship trophy following the teams April 29 win over Loyola-Chicago that earned them a birth in the Final Four.

RIGHT: Down by one point in the third game, senior Mike Daiga prepares to serve. IPFW scored four points off of Daiga's serve late in the third game

Photo by Brianna Belford (right) and Submitted Photo (above)

Where the Money I$

Men's Volleyball

Arnie Ball
'05-'06 Salary: $51,000
'05-'06 Funding: $139,002

- Combined Asst. Salaries: $44,167 (2)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $81,000 (14)
- Career Win/Loss: 434-306 (.586)
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 23-7
- Career Notes: Led team to 1991, 1992, 1994, 1999 and 2006 NCAA Final Four. His 434 wins rank fourth all-time for NCAA men's volleyball coaches.

Women's Volleyball

Kelly Hartley
'05-'06 Salary: $51,000
'05-'06 Funding: $163,566

- Combined Asst. Salaries: $31,000 (1)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $168,000 (13)
- Career Win/Loss: 146-73 (.667)
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 24-6
- Career Notes: Led team to five 22-plus win seasons in seven years coaching. Named Independent Coach of the Year in 2004.

Baseball

Billy Gernon
'05-'06 Salary: $40,000
'05-'06 Funding: $123,894

- Combined Asst. Salaries: None
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $64,000 (24)
- Career Win/Loss: 133-198 (.402)
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 20-24 (season inc.)
- Career Notes: The program has won 20-plus games in the last three seasons.

Men's Tennis

Eric Burns
'05-'06 Salary: $29,932
'05-'06 Funding: $45,501

- Combined Asst. Salaries: None
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $15,000 (13)
- Career Win/Loss: 26-49 (.347)
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 11-15
- Career Notes: Led program to best record in Division I history in 2006

Special note: Burns' salary is for coaching both the men's and women's programs.

West Point

By Nick West
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Dictionary.com defines success as "the achievement of something desired, planned or attempted."

Every IPFW athletic program's goal is to be successful – to win games, manifest a sense of achievement for coaches and student-athletes and even create a fan base.

Another way to measure success is if these athletic programs catch the eye of a conference and as a result IPFW gains affiliation. This will make for much easier game scheduling and allow the athletic department to operate more independently from an economical standpoint.

The Mid-Continent Conference currently fields eight members since Chicago State exited on April 21. This leaves the door open for IPFW's chance to finally leave the Independent ranks after five years and join a conference. But the reality of the situation right now is IPFW is not in a conference, which means scheduling conflicts and a budget that operates differently from a conference-affiliated institution.

So, for argument's sake, let's take out the coaches and player talent from programs here at Independent IPFW. What is the remaining feature that attributes to the success or lack of success of specific athletic programs?

Funding.

Where is the money at? How many scholarships can be given out based on the money given to each program? How much can be spent on uniforms, equipment, travel, food and coach salaries?

Breaking it down

According to the 2005-06 estimated operating budget obtained from the IPFW Faculty Senate, the IPFW athletic department had $3,358,012 total funds available. The total estimated expenditures for the fiscal year as of Oct. 10, 2005 was $3,324,185 – a surplus of $33,827.

Of the $3,358,012 available, $2,199,185 was for operational expenses and $1,125,000 was for scholarship expenses (note: to see a breakdown of funding for each athletic program, see the graphics on this page).

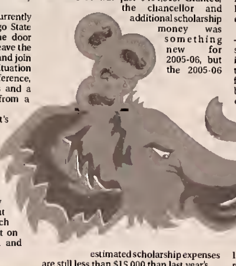
The estimated total funds available include but are not limited to: contributions ($550,000), student fee income ($1,267,102), ticket income ($195,000), guaranteed income ($275,000), institutional support ($494,910) and chancellor scholarships and general scholarships which total just under $500,000.

The 2005-06 operating budget varies from the 2004-05 actual budget, which was audited on Jan. 26, 2006. The total funds available were $4,118,372 and expenditures were $4,124,249 – a deficit of $5,877.

"Not too bad," athletic director Mark Pope told me before pulling out a calculator to figure out the minute percentile of the deficit difference – .001427 to be exact.

But why was there an $800,064 total expenditure drop-off from 2004-05 to 2005-06?

That drop-off is about one-fifth of the total funding – a lot for a number over four million. The main difference I could find came in the "Institutional Support" category. In 2004-05, this area was audited for $1,085,521. But the estimated number for 2005-06 was just $494,910. Granted, the chancellor and additional scholarship money was something new for 2005-06, but the 2005-06



estimated scholarship expenses are still less than $15,000 than last year's.

IPFW has taken a positive step in each year since officially competing in the Division I ranks beginning in 2002. In fact, total funds available has jumped from $1,925,047.10 in 2001-02 to the $3,358,012 estimated for 2005-06.

Under-funded?

But is the athletic department as a whole under-funded? Without a conference, there certainly isn't much revenue brought in from tournaments and donations from the community, alumni, etc. are far less, even though Pope told me the athletic department receives funding every day.

Larry Lee, a prestigious member of the community, donated five million dollars to the IPFW athletic department earlier this year. He requested one million be used for the construction of an indoor track at the new student services building planned for construction in the near future. The remaining four million is to be used for scholarships.

I wasn't able to track down any other Mid-Con or Independent school's athletic department funding from their respective Faculty Senate, but I was able to obtain numbers from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education.

Pope doesn't give credence to the USOE numbers because he said it isn't an accurate assessment of an institution's respective financial situation. He said the report is meant to track gender equity issues, not an athletic department budget.

"In the records that it requests from us, and the material it requests from us, it is not a true accurate financial picture," Pope said. "Again, nor is it meant to be. It's meant to be a discussion of gender equity."

Pope cited Orthopedics Northeast (ONE) – a medical company that offers trainers for student-athletes – and its services is not included in the USDE report. He added the golf facilities provided by Deer Track for the golf programs as another example, but did not elaborate. He did not cite any other discrepancies from the USOE report compared to the IPFW Faculty Senate's budget.

Remember the $5,877 deficit from the IPFW Faculty Senate's 2004-05 audited budget? Well, the USOE has the exact same number for its deficit. The total expenses the USDE came up with was $3,545,299. The expenses were $3,539,422. Voila, there is the $5,877. Coincidence? I think not.

Regardless of what the USOE defines as expenses and revenues and what the IPFW Faculty Senate and Pope defines as revenues and expenses, the final number is still the same.

Since we're going by the USOE report, here is how IPFW compares to Mid-Con and Independent schools.

The University of Missouri-Kansas City was the only team to lose money in the Mid-Con in 2004-05. It lost $422,480. Valparaiso, Oakland, Oral Roberts and Western Illinois were the only teams to make money. Oakland's men's basketball team won the Mid-Con tournament and earned a trip to the NCAA tournament as a result. The Oral Roberts men were runner-up and earned a berth in the National Invitation Tournament. That is probably where they're surplus in revenue came from. Chicago State, who left on April 21,

▶ MONEY Page B6

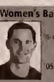
Men's Soccer

Terry Stefankiewicz
'05-'06 Salary: $52,718
'05-'06 Funding: $86,949

- Combined Asst. Salaries: $31,150 (1)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $84,000 (21)
- Career Win/Loss: 174-171-18 (.504)
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 3-17
- Career Notes: He's been coaching the program since 1978. The men went 0-6 in their first year of Mid-American Conference play.

Special note: See Women's Soccer.

Women's Basketball



Chris Paul
'05-'06 Salary: $32,502 (as assistant)
'05-'06 Funding: $219,483

- Combined Asst. Salaries: N/A (4)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $210,000 (11)
- Career Win/Loss: 6-11 (.300)
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 6-14
- Career Notes: Paul was promoted to interim head coach on 12/22/2005 after Bruce Patterson resigned and named full-time head coach 03/22/06.

Softball

Keith Fisher
'05-'06 Salary: $18,180
'05-'06 Funding: $81,454

- Combined Asst. Salaries: $2,000 (1)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $90,000
- Career Win/Loss: TBD
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: TBD

Women's Soccer

Terry Stefankiewicz
'05-'06 Salary: $52,718
'05-'06 Funding: $98,509

- Combined Asst. Salaries: $31,450 (1)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $98,000 (20)
- Career Win/Loss: 32-70 (6 ties) (.314)
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 6-11-3
- Career Notes: The women won the United Soccer Conference title last season

Special notes: Stefankiewicz salary is for coaching both the soccer programs.

Track & Field

Mike Fruchey
'05-'06 Salary: $20, 210
'05-'06 Funding $24,676 (indoor), $36,171 (outdoor)

- Combined Asst. Salaries: None
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $25,000 (15)
- Career Win/Loss: N/A
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: N/A

Special Note: Fruchey's salary is for coaching both the men's and women's cross country programs and the women's track & field program.

Women's Tennis

Eric Burns
'05-'06 Salary: $29,932
'05-'06 Funding: $44,591

- Combined Asst. Salaries: None
- '05-'06 Scholarships: 25,000 (9)
- Career Win/Loss: TBD
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: TBD
- Career Notes: Named the 2006 Independent Coach of the Year.

Special note: Burns' salary is for coaching both the men's and women's programs.

Men's Basketball

Dane Fife
'05-'06 Salary: $80,400
'05-'06 Funding: $387,496

- Combined Asst. Salaries: $98,290 (3)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $186,000 (16)
- Career Win/Loss: 10-18 (.357
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: 10-18
- Career Notes: Fife will begin the second year of his five-year contract in 2006-07. He is one of four IPFW coaches with multi-year contracts

M/W Golf

Jeff Marsh
'05-'06 Salary: $18,660
'05-'06 Funding: $81,626

- Combined Asst. Salaries: $5,000 (1)
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $24,000 (men - 10), $30,000 (women - 5)
- Career Win/Loss: N/A
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: N/A
- Career Notes: Marsh was named head coach on September 22, 2003 upon creation of the program

M/W Cross Country

Mike Fruchey
'05-'06 Salary: $20,210
'05-'06 Funding: $31,700

- Combined Asst. Salaries: None
- '05-'06 Scholarships: $25 000 (men – 9, women – 9)
- Career Win/Loss: N/A
- '05-'06 Win/Loss: N/A

Special Note: Fruchey's salary is for coaching both the men's and women's cross country programs and the women's track & field program

Athletic Dept.

Mark Pope
'05-'06 Salary: Not Available
'05-'06 Salaries: $196,000

- 2005-2006 Athletic Reserve: $150,000
- Sports Info & Marketing: $108,564
- Marking & Promotions: $139,729

2005-2006 Estimated Revenues:
$195,000 - Ticket Income
$275,000 - Gurantee income
$250 000 - Marketing Income

NOTE: The "2005-06 funding" in the statistical boxes are totals that IPFW had budgeted. The numbers in parenthesis are how many coaches or student-athletes are affiliated with the specified athletic program. For example, the (3) next to "Assistants salaries" in the men's volleyball statistical breakdown box is the total number of assistant coaches on IPFW payroll. The (14) next to $81,000 in the "2005-06 scholarships" category is how many men's volleyball players are on the team. All "Career W/L" records only consider IPFW records and no previous coaching experiences.

Who gets the best bang for their buck at IPFW

Cup of J

By Justin Kenny
jkenny@ipfwcommunicator.org

Well, since my esteemed colleagues here at The Communicator have put a dynamite spread together about finances and salaries here at IPFW, I thought I would have some fun. Let's break it down, the bang for the buck for each of the coaches, well, at least the ones that have a record that's easy to figure (sorry track, cross-country and golf). Here's the formula: take the salary, divide it by wins and BOOM, an easy way to see who needs canned.

Here we go:

Men's baseball
Coach: Billy Gernon
2006 record: 20-24 (with at least two games remaining)
2006 salary: $40,000
Pay per win: $2,000

Analysis: Gernon has made strides with the baseball program and, quite frankly, he might be underpaid (as well as his program being under-funded). If the baseball program continues to improve and send legit prospects into the MLB Amateur Drafts, Gernon could begin to hear offers from bigger schools and if IPFW wants to hold onto him, they will have to up his salary.

Men's basketball
Coach: Dane Fife
2006 record: 10-18
2006 salary: $80,400
Pay per win: $8,040

Analysis: Fife surpassed nearly everyone's expectations with the season he put together with the men. Next year, the expectations rise exponentially with nearly everyone returning. If a 15-plus win season happens next year, Fife will be looking for a pay increase, and a little over eight grand a win will look like chump change.

Men's and women's soccer
Coach: Terry Stefankiewicz
2006 record: Men: 3-17-0; Women: 6-11-3, USC Tournament Champions
2006 salary: $52,718
Pay per win: $5,857

Analysis: Give Stefankiewicz some credit, the guy has to run two separate programs almost by himself. Meanwhile, the men's and women's basketball teams get a buttload of assistant coaches. Hopefully soon IPFW will be able to hire a coach for one of the soccer teams and Stefankiewicz can concentrate on running just one. He also does a helluva job with the Soccer Showcase.

Men's and women's tennis
Coach: Eric Burns
2006 record: Men: 11-16; Women: 17-13
2006 salary: $29,932
Pay per win: $1,069

Analysis: One of the big values in the IPFW coaching ranks. Burns also handles double duty in terms of coaching both tennis programs and does it quite well. He continues to recruit well and get a lot of quality athletes into both programs.

Men's volleyball
Coach: Arnie Ball
2006 record: 23-7, NCAA Final Four Participant
2006 salary: $73,994
Pay per win: $3,217

Analysis: Probably the only coach in this list worth EVERY cent, Ball returned the program to an elite level this season. He should be the highest-paid coach at IPFW, but we all know how basketball takes precedence. Even with a high salary, his pay per win is quite low. All in all, one hell of a model American.

Women's basketball
Coaches: Bruce Patterson (resigned), Chris Paul (interim)
2006 record: 7-21
2006 salaries: Patterson-$62, 620; Paul-$32,502
Pay per win: Patterson-$62,620; Paul-$5,417

Analysis: Boy, did Patterson ever rob the bank with his performance this season. His one win before resigning gave him his entire salary. In the meantime, Paul made an immediate impact on the program and was hired to be the head coach for next season. A decent bang-for-the-buck for IPFW in Paul.

Women's softball
Coach: Keith Fisher
2006 record: 11-33
2006 salary: $18,150
Pay per win: $1,650

Analysis: Well, the price paid per win is quite low, but that's only because the salary to begin with is low. It's a struggling program that continually loses players to leaving the team. If the salary is this low, it would not be hard to find someone better for this position. Softball has $26,000 more scholarship money than baseball, yet the bang for the buck is only $350 less.

Women's volleyball
Coach: Kelley Hartley-Hutton
2006 record: 24-6
2006 salary: $51,000
Pay per win: $2,125

Analysis: This woman deserves a raise! Maybe she has already gotten one, who knows. Anyway, the bang-for-the-buck is impressive, and she is quickly turning the program into one that reloads instead of rebuilds. It is known she has received offers from other schools in the past and she most likely will continue to get them in the future. Hey Pope, she's a keeper.

So, there you have it. It's all so clear when you break it down numbers-wise. I'm sure Mark Pope and Chancellor Wartell will use this column as a "cheat sheet" on how much they are getting for their money they are throwing out.

August 18-21, 2005

The sixth annual Soccer Showcase is held at the Hefner Soccer Fields. The men fell in a close contest with nationally ranked Northwestern while the women upended Xavier. A men's battle between UCLA and Indiana also highlighted the event.

Senior Fabiana Souza breaks the school record in kills that stood for five years. Souza captured the record held by Laura Douglas (1,895 kills) against Southern Mississippi. Souza finished her career with 2,305 kills.

September 10

September 23

The men's soccer team becomes the fourth Mastodon team to independently join a conference. The team joined the Mid-American Conference, which the men's tennis team is already a member of. The union also allows scheduling arrangements with the conference for women's volleyball and baseball.

October 17-18

The golf teams hosted their first ever home meet. The IPFW Fall Classic saw the men place fourth of 7 schools and women finish seventh of nine programs. Nathan Hoff finished third overall for the men

November 6

in the first year of the United Soccer Conference, the women's soccer team wins the USC Tournament with a 2-1 victory over Utah Valley State. Sophomore Anika Apar is the tournament's Offensive MVP.

Shortly into his fifth season, women's basketball coach Bruce Patterson resigns citing personal reasons. It is the second season in which a basketball coach is replaced mid-season.

December 21

Skip & Trip: A witty year needs a witty year in review

Witty Banter

Skip Hooligan & Trip McFeely

sports@ipfwcommunicator.org

Skip: Back after a giant hiatus, in which many of you probably won't read the farewell for Skip and Trip, but we guarantee that we will burn any bridges we haven't yet and will continue on the journalism excellence we have set by The Communicator.

Trip: Sorry about us being away; we were busy planning the Brian Miller and Sarah Laibs going-away parties. It's tough to find a decent place to rent llamas from.

Skip: Yes indeed; I hear there will be pizza box bowling and sub eating contests, though. Probably stolen food and drink as well for the Miller reception. Well, in our last issue we will recap our top five stories of the year, a preview of next year in each sport that we cover on a semi-regular basis and give some shoutouts to retiring seniors that we like, and to the others, we barely knew you.

Trip: It's our semester-ending Skip and Trip bash. So grab a nice alcoholic beverage, sit back in your inflated sofa chair you stole from the liquor store and read another award-winning column.

Skip: Sounds good. We'll start off at number five being Skip and Trip revive IPFW athletics, isn't that right Trip?

Trip: We brought about many changes in our time in the pages of this great publication. In the future, I am sure we will be known as" the Rosa Parks of The Communicator.

Skip: I agree. Back when we first debuted our partnership we said men's volleyball was destined for the final four, and by God, we were right.

Trip: We pushed for the hiring of Chris Paul, which happened.

Skip: We pushed for the dismissal of Brian Miller in marketing and it also happened.

Trip: It's like, we are the IPFW athletics suggestions box.

Skip: I think we are, and recently we were awarded the Edward Blatchford Excellence in Writing and Wavy Hair Award, too.

Trip: Dur walls here at the Skip and Trip Memorial Arena and Petting Zoo sure are getting filled rather quickly with accolades.

Skip: I'm not sure what IPFW is going to do without us next year. I'm sure there will be a collective sigh of relief from a few people in the upper office.

Trip: They know they love us. We write things they cannot begin to think they can say.

Skip: Indeed to those in the upper office we like, including Ron, coaches Bali, Hartley and staff, Paul and staff, Gernon, we hope the best for you in the upcoming year. Am I missing anyone Trip?

Trip: Pope is a decent young lad, also. But I think we got everyone for the most part.

Skip: I will agree, even though I've blown the Popester a lot of crap this year. What's number four?

Trip: He would like to think this should be number one, but number four is the hiring of Dane Fife as men's basketball coach and the subsequent season the team had. Wasn't too shabby, wouldn't you say?

Skip: Better than I imagined. We both aren't the biggest Dane Fife fans out there. I'd take Michael Lewis here anytime, anyway. But you have to commend what he did this year when I thought they didn't have a chance in the world to hit double digit wins.

Trip: And he has kept everyone around from last season, with the exception of D.J. "Eyebrows" Posley and the addition of the two redshirts and a couple JuCo big guys should make next season a dandy one.

Skip: The loss of Posley hurts; he was a steady point guard for the Mastodons in the latter part of the season, but next year, a softer schedule should equal to see you later Dane Fife.

Trip: You can't really picture him staying here if a higher mid-major offers some more cash. He loves to say he wants to build a program at IPFW, but come on...

Skip: I agree. He'd be a fool to stay unless we get into the Mid-Con in 2007-08. That would be the only thing to keep him around - a potential tourney bid.

Trip: And a bigger paycheck.

Skip: So, moving to number three, one thing we lobbied for throughout the spring, the hiring of Chris Paul as the women's basketball coach.

Trip: The women's team showed great headway down the stretch when Paul took over for the floundering coach Patterson. The future is a bit brighter for the team with Paul at the helm.

Skip: I agree; he's young and a go-getter. And he has a style of play that works with the right type of athletes. With a talented backcourt coming back, the women's team should be ready for a run next year at 15, what do you think?

Trip: I would say more like 10. But then again, we have been wrong before. Hahaha, not really.

Skip: Haha, not wrong usually. Number two is something that really chapped my ass this year and we will cover in definite sarcastic undertones - the Notre Dame men's fiasco and the subsequent falling of MIA.

Trip: I'm all for handicapped people getting seats. But not in the established student section! It was a travesty ranking

▶ **SKIP & TRIP:** *Page B6*

Photo by Eugene Harding/ eharding@ipfwcommunicator.org

LEADER: Sophomore transfer DeWitt Scott shined for a on-again/off-again men's basketball program.

It is never easy to say goodbye

In All Directions

By Dan Vance

djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

It is a hard thing to think about as I sit here typing, but it is true: my time is up. This is indeed my last column for The Communicator. It's my turn to ride into that proverbial sunset.

I started here as a wide-eyed freshman in the fall of 2002 and have had a rollercoaster college and Communicator career ever since. I have had over 300 bylines and have served in almost every position there is to serve in here, but I have always been covering sports. The athletics offered here at IPFW have been refreshing to witness, the athletes and coaches: superb to work with.

So this is my goodbye and my heartfelt thank you.

One of the first things that athletic director Mark Pope said to me when I skittishly entered his office as a staff writer at age 18 was that he was happy to have me aboard. He immediately made me feel welcome into the athletic family. And no matter what I have done over the years to upset him or other staff in the department, he has always been there to forgive. It is rare to find someone like Mark who, while upset, understands that I only do my job, even if it at some point comes in conflict with him or his staff.

Probably my most vivid memory of this comes with men's volleyball coach Arnie Ball. As a sophomore, I wrote an edition of this very column entitled "Time to Teach the Coaches," in which I stated that I felt coaches should serve more of a purpose to the general student than just coach. Needless to say, Arnie was not too fond of that. But thanks to Mark, things were patched up (even if it did take a year).

Coach Ball has done a great deal for me over the years as I have covered the men's volleyball program. The 2006 Final Four was the last event I covered here and I believe that is only fitting. My highest highs and my lowest lows as a writer have come with this team. And at the end of the day, I can honestly say that it was an honor to have the men's volleyball beat.

I have had a lot of good memories thanks to my affiliation with the athletic department in conjunction with The Communicator. I wish I could name them all or thank each person over in the Gates Center that has facilitated this process, but it would take too much room. But you all know as you read this, I shouldn't have to say it. But there are a few that I have to mention by name because they have done so much for me. Rudy Yovich, Mark Pope, Billy Gernon, Dane Fife, Jeff Tungate and of course coach Ball — you all have never offered anything but a helping hand. That generosity has been very proactive and has made each visit to Gates that much better than the last.

And the athletes have made it so much better. This university is truly blessed to have student-athletes who are thoughtful and generous people. I can't imagine what this time writing sports at The Communicator would have been like without the people like Mike Daigs, David Simon or C.J. Macias (to name a few).

In association with that, I have had a lot of good times and made a lot of good friends over roughly four years at this newspaper. This place has even been a medium for me to reunite with my two best friends from high school, Tim Rodgers and Alex DeVinney-Stoner, and make new bonds in our adult lives. I have made friends with peers, those who are elder and those who are my junior. And each of them has left a lasting mark on my life.

One person moreso than the others will always mean a lot to me and my development as a journalist and that is former Editor-in-Chief Scott Lawson. At a time in my life that I could not count on most people to do much more than give up on me, Scott was there to help guide me. His knowledge in life and journalism has helped mold me into the writer and the person that I am today. I could never repay him for the kindness he has always given me.

THE LAST WALK: I guess the next exile would be me.

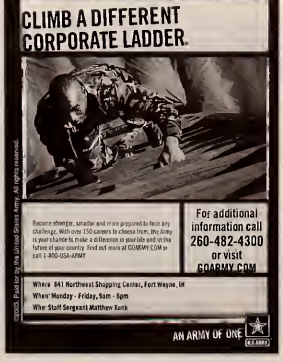
And here I sit so proud of where the sports section has come since Nick Altman and I did it all back in the 2002-2003 school year. My time helping make the sports section become the best section in the paper was by far something that I never did on my own.

And that was thanks to the Fab four: myself, Anthony Maurer, Nick West and Justin Kenny, who have held a killer-grip on the section for the past three years. Nick and Justin both have and do work in the professional world of journalism and are an asset that few, if any, college papers have. I truly hope that these two have learned as much from me over the past years as I have learned from them. Because if so, then I have passed on a lot to them.

I feel truly blessed as I write this column (and yes, there are a few last tears welling up in my eyes), one last story at my desk in Walb 215, because I have experienced something at The Communicator that few people have in their entire lives. I have found hope, passion, desire and a second family who I will always be able to count on to be there for me, just as I would be there for them. As I ride off into the sunset (or not as the case may be), I hope that this place yields the same results for future staffs as it has for me.

I will miss this paper greatly as it has been the major part of my college life, but it is time to move on no matter how hard it is for me to do. From the bottom of my heart, I thank everyone who made this possible for so long.

It's been a long, fun road: time to say goodbye.



January 20, 2006

IPFW, along with five other Division I Independent men's basketball programs, announce the beginning of the United Basketball Conference. The UBC, according to athletic director Mark Pope, is more of a scheduling agreement between IPFW, Texas Pan Am, North Dakota St., South Dakota St., Utah Valley State and the New Jersey Institute of Technology that guarantees five home and five road games for each school beginning in the 2006-2007 season.

March 1

Head coach Dane Fife leads the men's basketball to their 10th win over the season with a 55-54 win over UT-Pan American. It is the first time since the program went Division I that they have won 10 games in a season.

March 22

Chris Paul is named the new women's head basketball coach after half a season as the Interim coach. Paul was 6-14 as the Interim coach.

The men's volleyball team competes in their fifth Final Four and lose to UCLA 3-0 in the Semi-Final game live on ESPNU. The game showed on tape delay on ESPN2.

May 4

February 18-March 3

The women's basketball team ends their regular season, winning five of their final six games including the final three. All six games were either at the Hilliard Gates Sports Center or at the Memorial Coliseum. In the run, the team defeated Texas Pan American, Wayne State, North Dakota State, Utah Valley State and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. Ashley Johnson scored 19 points in the season ending victory over the Islanders.

March 25

Arnie Ball's men's volleyball team breaks a seven-year old school record for consecutive wins. Their record breaking 14th win was against Clarke. The streak lasted 63 days and and went to 16 matches. The previous record of 13 was set in 1999.

All-Academic recognition 'represents continued commitment to excellence'

Sports Wrap

By Nick West
nwest@ipfwcommunicator.org

The IPFW women's cross country team finished 14th in the NCAA Division I All-Academic ranks, according to the Women's Intercollegiate Cross Country Coaches Association.

The Mastodons had a team grade-point average of 3.57. Southeastern Conference member Mississippi State was first with a team grade-point average of 3.78.

"This is a great honor for our team," coach Mike Fruchey said in a press release. "It represents our continued commitment to excellence in the classroom."

Women's tennis

Sophomore Hanna Hager was one of two NCAA Division I Independent women's tennis student-athletes with a 4.0 grade-point average and as a result was named to the All-Academic team.

Hager is a psychology major.

IPFW senior Beth Miller (3.93) and juniors Jessica Vervynckt (3.94) and Lisa Bartelheim (3.5) were also named to the team.

Texas A&M Corpus Christi placed the most on the list with five. Northern Colorado had four; Savannah State and Providence three; Longwood, South Dakota State and UC-Davis had two and Texas Pan-American had one.

IPFW came off of its best Division I season in history with a 17-13 record.

Women's softball

Though IPFW softball coach Keith Fisher could not be reached for verification or comment on the issue, it appears four softball players have elected to leave the program.

Photo by Lana Mabbitt / lmabbitt@ipfwcommunicator.org

RUN: Cross Country runners Ashley Ritchey and Kristen Simpson practice in the fall.

Jessica Thomas, Kayla Vargo, Natalie Clark and Jessica Mest's names have been removed off the softball plaques that latch onto the outfield wall at the IPFW softball field.

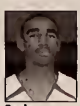
In the past, names that have been removed from the softball plaques are of players who are not returning to the program for one reason or the other. Senior Jenna Beachy's name has been removed in the tradition of graduation so another student-athlete's name will be placed on the plaque where her name was before next season begins.

▶ **WRAP:** *Page B6*

Posley exits, men add JuCo recruit Burrows

By Nick West
nwest@ipfwcommunicator.org

With the departure of freshman point guard D.J. Posley, IPFW was able to use the available scholarship to sign 6-foot-8, 205-pound forward Jaraun Burrows from Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin, Tennessee.



Posley

Burrows

Burrows, a native of Nassau, Bahamas, averaged 20.1 points, 9.4 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 2.4 blocks per game last season.

He was selected to the NJCAA Division I Second Team All-America and named NJCAA Region VII Player of the Year in 2005-06.

"Jaraun is the type of player that we were looking for finalize this class," IPFW coach Dane Fife said in a press release. "He adds athleticism and a scoring punch in the post. Not only is he a quality scorer, but he is also an excellent passer from the post, a great rebounder and a shot blocker. (He) really knows how to play the game."

Posley, who was not recruited by Fife, left for undisclosed reasons. According to Chicagohoops.com he received his release on March 23. Fortwayneplayers.net reported Posley will transfer to John A. Logan Community College in Chicago – Posley's hometown.

Posley joins junior Mohammed Esseghir as the only two players who have left the program under Fife.

Those numbers are slight compared to the mass exodus the program had experienced in each of the two previous years.

Seven players left before the 2005-06 season and four before 2004-05 (excluding the two who left during the season).

Neither Posley nor Fife could be reached for comment.

Burrows will have two years of eligibility remaining and, according to Fife, had a good visit and fit in well with current players.

"We expect Jaraun to be a positive addition to our program both on and off the court as we continue building our program here at IPFW," Fife said.

According to an IPFW press release, Burrows received interest from UNLV, Purdue, Morehead State and Arkansas State before choosing IPFW.

Burrows joins forward Pat Lepper as the other signee for next season.

Redshirt guards Kevin Nelson and Demetrius Johnson, who were signed before the 2005-06 season, will be available for action next season.

The spring 2006 staff of The Communicator, along with these organizations and businesses welcome the incoming freshman class

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SKIP & TRIP
From Page B4

right up there with the St. Valentine's Day Massacre in Chicago in 1931.

Skip: I agree, and what made the Blue and Brew Crew even more pissed was the lackluster response given to us by officials at IPFW.

Trip: With the crappy student support IPFW athletics gets anyway, you would think they would treat the couple dozen fans that come to every game and cause a ruckus a little better.

Skip: Which leads to why MIA pretty much disbanded.

Trip: Obviously, making old Notre Dame fans in their green garb happy was more important than catering to any IPFW fans. MIA is dead.

Skip: And gladly so. The constant lies and deceit by the now departed Brian Miller caused all of the students to basically kill what seemingly was a good idea, just put in the wrong hands.

Trip: Let us not forget the mistakes of the past, lest we repeat them.

Skip: Yeah, Brian Miller is a stooge and we're glad he's gone.

Trip: So, I'm curious, what could be number one?

Skip: Women's track, of course.

Trip: Close. I would have to go with the men's volleyball team advancing to the NCAA Final Four. What a great season for the young team.

Skip: I agree, and I foresee a possible return this next year. They lose the big Turk in Sikca but return everyone else, including Maclas and Stewart, two big cogs.

Trip: And a mighty fine recruiting class coming in, as well. Hopefully, next season will see us return to the Final Four.

Skip: I agree, with the man Ball leading them again.

Trip: He is so study. It's got to be the hair.

Skip: I agree. So, looking forward to next year. What sports should we take a look at?

Trip: We kind of talked about each team we wanted to during the top five, how about we look at the top five potential headlines next season?

Skip: That works. I'll let you start with number five.

Trip: At number five, I would say, "Women's ball team eclipses double digit wins."

Skip: I would agree. They have the tools to go at it next year, if they could bring in a couple of horses to play up front next year.

Trip: What would you say number four is, Skippy?

Skip: Oane Fife probably eclipsing 15 wins and possibly leaving IPFW after next season.

Trip: Good call. With the amount of talent they have on the roster, a big win total like that is surely within reach. But it's going to be tough without the typical guys in the student section screaming.

Skip: Exactly. The crowd will have to get behind them a lot more. Hopefully there will not be anymore boring contests going on during halftime and timeouts as well.

Trip: Like J.J. Jumper.

Skip: And the kids' slam dunk contest.

Trip: Good call, my partner in crime.

Skip: What's number 3?

Trip: "Women's volleyball team has another stellar season."

Trip: Even with the loss of Fabiana Souza, there is still plenty of talent on the roster.

Skip: True. They return number two, Peachy, and Cynara among others. They will need a setter to replace Erika and another big hitter to replace Fabi.

Trip: I'm sure they will take their lumps early trying to find the right combination of girls, but it will come together.

Skip: Exactly; they'll be swinging those bats and spiking the competition before long.

Trip: Most likely. What about number two?

Skip: I think it's the return of the men's team to the Final Four.

Trip: I agree. The bulk of the talent returns and the magical mind of Arnie Ball will surely get them back. Let's hope they don't run into UCLA in the semi-finals next season.

Skip: Yeah, those surfers and lumberjacks. Hard to stop a front line that has so many big guys.

Trip: Didn't BALCO have a lab in LA? Who knows.

Skip: I think so.

Trip: The guy's team has a bright future, that's for sure.

Skip: I agree. And then back to the GLVC.

Trip: That's right. Well Skip, who do we need to bid goodbye to after this year in IPFW athletics?

Skip: To the departing seniors from soccer Peter Hachaj, Justin "Mexico" Ebaugh, Lindsay Williamson, volleyball Fabiana Souza, basketball player Kelly Boyd and softball's Jenna Beachy.

Trip: We must remember all our favorite coaches as well. Coach Fisher, you will be remembered.

Skip: As a hack.

Trip: Better to be remembered negatively than to be not remembered at all.

Skip: Exactly. And to all, it's been a fun ride. We've made a lot of friends at IPFW and some enemies, but overall the ride must end.

Trip: IPFW athletics will amazingly continue on even without us, but it will be much harder to understand without our commentary.

Skip: I agree. You can continue to read Skip and Trip online as well, if you feel the need for more witty insight.

Trip: For us all here at the office, including Joe-boo, we wish you a happy and joyous Festivus.

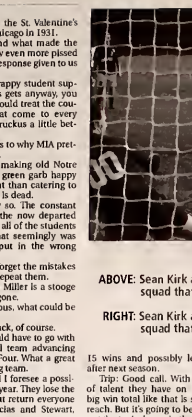

Photo by Dan Vance (Right) and Brenda Jones (Above)

ABOVE: Sean Kirk and Caleb Smith were part of a senior-heavy squad that reached 20-wins for the third straight year.

RIGHT: Sean Kirk and Caleb Smith were part of a senior-heavy squad that reached 20-wins for the third straight year.

WRAP
From Page B5

Vargo was the team's power hitter and led the Mastodons in runs batted in with 26. She also was tied for team-high honors with three home runs. She hit .268.

Natalie Clark was a utility player and saw action as a pitcher, too. She compiled a 1-4 record with a 3.61 earned run average. Jessica Mast started 23 of 44 games and hit .193. Thomas saw little playing time.

Baseball

IPFW announced the signing of two recruits to the program. Brett Merkley is a right-handed pitcher and infielder from Forest Park High School in Huntingburg, IN. As of May 15, his earned run average was 2.51 and he was 4-2. He was hitting .424 with 12 RBI.

"Brett was sought after by very respected competition," coach Billy Gernon said in a press release. "He is a feisty competitor that should impact our program immediately."

Infielder Jason Ooerffler from Concordia here in Fort Wayne is

MONEY
From Page83

made out even along with three other teams.

Three independent teams made out in the green, including Longwood at $280,870. Five broke even and one was in the red – South Dakota State at $266,548.

Only one Mid-Con team had less expenses and revenue monies than IPFW – the soon-to-be-departed Chicago State. It made $2,472,210 and spent that exact amount. Valparaiso's expenses were the highest at $7,161,246, but it made $1,321,055 in revenue – by far the highest of any Mid-Con team.

Two independent teams had less in the revenue and expenses categories – Utah Valley State and Savannah State. Seven others were higher than IPFW.

So if only three out of the 15 combined athletic departments have less expenses but also less revenue than IPFW, according to the USOE report, does that mean IPFW is under-funded?

"Depends on your definition of under-funded," Pope said.

Pope said because of NCAA rules, IPFW can only fully fund both basketball and volleyball programs when it comes to scholarships.

"I think we're typical of most institutions of our size and development," he said.

Having less revenue and expenses than all but two of the nine other Independents is typical?

"I'm sure they could use more," Pope continued. "But it's a question of priorities. I guess I'm not the best person to answer that question."

Pope then referred to the IPFW-Notre Dame baseball game on April 19 when the Mastodons took the Irish to an extra inning but lost 4-3 at Notre Dame.

"I would argue that Notre Dame's baseball program is fully funded and it's also 100 years old," he said. "Let (coach) Billy (Gernon) was able to match up shot-for-shot, you know, slugged it out toe-to-toe and took them extra innings. There is not necessarily a direct correlation between dollars spent and athletic successes but certainly if you are sitting there with five scholarships divided up among your team and you are going up against a team that has 10 scholarships divided up among its team, common sense would tell you the team with 10 scholarships has better student-athletes. They've got more to spend."

Complete example here. But how does a baseball program that receives $123,894 in expenses and $64,000 in scholarship money win twice as many games as a softball program that receives $81,454 in expenses and $90,000 in scholarships when that baseball team is the most traveled program at IPFW (17 away games) and uses the most of that extra $42,000 on travel? Please see the below column by my esteemed colleague Justin Kenny for justification.

Need. Money. Soon.

It is a certainty that if IPFW can gain Mid-Con affiliation this summer, any financial woes will be shored up and revenue will be in the positive. Regardless, IPFW has done a tremendous job in balancing the budget despite not receiving conference income. Sadly, it has and may continue to come at the expense of losing.

If you've ever played sports, you know losing flat-out sucks. Only three programs – both volleyballs and women's tennis – had winning records this school year at IPFW. The other eight programs – excluding men's and women's golf and women's track because the win-loss system is different – had less than .500 records.

How can this be remedied?

It should be noted that only four IPFW coaches have multi-year contracts – both volleyball and both basketball programs' head coaches. Pope said he is considering offering a multi-year deal to baseball coach Billy Gernon. All other coaches are on one-year deals. A long-term commitment to a coach will better attract recruits simply because those kids want to play for the coach and know he or she will be around for at least more than one year.

Another fix should perhaps be the firing or resignation of some coaches here at IPFW. Pope said he doesn't evaluate coaches in-season and waits until all games are played. Right now, all programs are in their off-season. It's evaluation time, Mr. Pope. I'm not going to name who should be fired, not have their contract renewed or resign. I'll let Justin do that in the column below. But you look at the funding and scholarship money compared to wins and losses and accolades in the graphics on this page and come to a conclusion.

The ultimate remedy is going to be conference affiliation. Hands-down. Hopefully that'll happen this summer after the Mid-Con meetings and deliberations.

"It would solve a lot of issues," Pope said. "It would certainly create a much more coherent schedule for our teams. I think that it is difficult to gin up a significant amount of community support, although I think we've done a remarkable job with it. But it's difficult when you can't point to specific conference championship. It would be a tremendous benefit to increasing funding."

IPFW has done pretty well managing money despite not having a solid conference income. Yet it does have much less in revenue and expenses than most of its Mid-Con and independent counterparts.

So how can we measure success at IPFW without a conference affiliation? Or do we measure success by how well or poorly IPFW has done – at least financially – as an Independent? What will certainly be a success is if IPFW joins the Mid-Con or any other conference very soon – hopefully this summer.

IPFW cannot last financially as a Division I institution.

Skip: I agree. And then back to the GLVC.

Trip: That's right. Well Skip, who do we need to bid goodbye to after this year in IPFW athletics?

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Foellinger Theatre 2006
Concerts & Movies

Germanfest
Fri., June 9, 8 p.m.

Freak Brothers
Fri., June 16, 8 p.m.

FW Area Community Band
Tues., June 20, 8 p.m.

Memories of the King: Brent Cooper
Sat., June 24, 8 p.m.

The Bel Airs
Fri., June 30, 8 p.m.

"Grease"
Wed., July 5, 8:30 p.m.

Knights on the Town with the Alley Kats
Thur., July 6, 8 p.m.

McAxe and the Fire Crew
Sun., July 9, 2:30 p.m.

"Shrek"
Wed., July 12, 8:30 p.m.

John Branam?s Big Swing Band
Thur., July 13, 8 p.m.

Summit City Chorus
Sun., July 16, 2:30 p.m.

FW Area Community Band
Tues., July 18, 8:00 p.m.

Music Express and Strictly Show
Thur., July 20, 8 p.m.

"Fiddler on the Roof"
Fri., July 21, 8:30 p.m.

Makem Brothers with the Spain Brothers
Sat., July 22, 8 p.m.

New Millennium Jazz Orchestra
Tues., July 25, 8 p.m.
Admission: $3

"Footloose"
Wed., July 26, 8:30 p.m.

Auburn Community Band
Thur., July 27, 8 p.m.

Revolution (A Tribute to the Beatles)
Sat., July 29, 8 p.m.

"Madagascar"
Wed., August 2, 8:30 p.m.

Indianapolis Jazz Orchestra
Fri., August 4, 8 p.m.
Admission: $3

Glenn Miller Orchestra
Wed., August 9, 8 p.m.
Admission: $3

"Muppets from Space"
Thur., August 10, 8:30 p.m.

FW Children's Choir
Fri., August 11, 7:30 p.m.

Orquesta Bravo!
Sat., August 12, 8 p.m.

"Parenthood"
Thur., August 17, 8:30 p.m.

Spike and the Bulldogs
Sat., August 19, 8 p.m.
Admission: $3

FW Area Community Band
Tues., August 15, 8:00

"The Three Amigos!"
Thur., August 24, 8:30 p.m.

"The Pink Panther"
Wed., August 30, 8:30 p.m.

Voices of Unity
Sat., Sept. 9, 7:30 p.m.

"Friday the 13th" and "The Ring"
Fri., October 13, 7:30 p.m.
Double Feature: $2

Concerts are free and movies are $1 unless otherwise stated. Call 427-6000 or 427-6715 for ticket or concert information.

FORT WAYNE PARKS & RECREATION
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Podium

Opinions • Editorials • Letters

2006 Summer Edition
vol. XXIV issue XXI
Page B7

EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR

Jamie Miller, Managing Editor
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Utilizing our right to freedom

Staff Editorial

One year. Those words hold an infinite amount of finality.

As the year has come to a close, we reminisce about the events in this past year, especially this past semester here at The Communicator.

The majority of the memories throughout campus when it comes to this paper this semester will bring us all back to Feb. 15 and the publishing of the oh-so controversial Muhammed cartoons and caricatures.

And the main lesson learned? Freedom. This is college and this is college life. We all live it each day in our own little ways. Did some people disagree with what we did on that occasion and other times throughout this past semester? Of course they did.

And have we disagreed with others? You bet we did.

We disagreed with the way that some people from Student Government handled the post-cartoon issue. And we stood up against them in the face of tyranny.

We disagreed with the direct lack of support that we received from our own board of directors most of the entire semester. Yet again, we stood up against them in support of our decisions.

The freedom that we expressed on Feb. 15, the freedom we continue to express each day and continued to express in each issue and then standing up for our decisions and our rights is what the college experience is all about.

Again, here we stand strong by our virtues facing off against any doubters who think that we do this campus and its students an injustice.

This issue of The Communicator is and for some time has been contracted to be an orientation issue for incoming freshmen students.

Already, the freshmen have been bombarded with not-so candid and very self-appreciative comments and slogans about IPFW and how great of a school that it is.

And we assure all of you freshmen that this can indeed be a great campus and a phenomenal experience.

And as we feel that we are leaders on this campus, we believe that we need to do just that and lead by our examples and our words in hopes that these new students will do the same in their time here.

This has been a semester full of newsworthy events. We have done our best to bring it to you and yes, we have done it our way. Not everyone will agree and that's just the way it is. But as long as you believe in yourself, you can go a long way here.

So stand up for who and what you are. The rest will take care of itself.

Cartoon by Andres Ponte / aponte@ipfwcommunicator.org

Letter to the Editor

Communicator deserves praise

I would like to commend Brianna Belford on her fine "feature" article on Danny Epple.

When I read about the accident last August, my first reaction was that this irresponsible kid had caused an accident that took the life of Professor Manzer.

Because I have used the track at Gates Center to walk laps and always pick up the latest edition of The Communicator, I read of Danny's election to a campus office. It made me wonder.

Brianna's article gave me a different insight to it all. "Why do bad things happen to good people?" That certainly can be wondered about the untimely death of John Manzer and the loss his family has suffered.

It can also be applied to Danny Epple. I believe his remorse is very real and his determination to use this experience to talk about the hazards of drinking and driving, to young people especially, will "save" someone's life.

He still faces sentencing. I hope he will continue to use his painful experience in a positive way.

PS. The Communicator is an excellent campus publication. I hope the students appreciate it and read it. Special congrats to Andrew Hoover and Chris Wetzel. They are a hoot.

June Moord

Summertime brings about annoying high schoolers

Pasquali's Ponderings

By Angie Pasquali
apasquali@ipfwcommunicator.org

Ah, it is finally summertime once again.

The birds are chirping, sun is shining and all of the schoolchildren are once again free to run amuck on society.

In my previous column, I discussed how everyone needs to get outside and enjoy the summertime.

Of course, we all want to go out and have fun with our friends and live it up.

Unfortunately, some individuals may ruin that experience for everyone else.

The common courtesies that most of us live our daily lives by, others continue to do everything in their power to not show any courtesy whatsoever.

You all know the people I am talking about. Those Abercrombie and Fitch guys, walking with the brainless twig girls on their arms. Especially in large numbers, these kids are guaranteed to be the most obnoxious and rude people you can run into.

These kids are usually of high school age, some even first year college.

The guys enjoy yelling stupid homosexual jokes at each other, while the girls do their stupid high-pitched giggle at everything said.

Most of these guys think they are the coolest kids at their high school and that they can make fun of whomever and do anything they want because Dad has the cash to buy their way out of anything.

The girls are seen as your anorexic, ditsy females.

They wear clothes that reveal far too much and usually wear excessive makeup. The funny part is they do not even notice that they look like a clown with their makeup like that.

The part that amuses me is that some of them look like a pumpkin because their face looks orange, but it is OK, because they cannot think for themselves, so if you tell them their face is orange, their little brain might explode and then you would have pumpkin bread everywhere.

One example of these intolerable sheep children happened to my boyfriend and I when we went to see a movie at the start of the summer. We walked into the theater and sat down, approximately 10 rows down from the top row.

There were many people already sitting down, so it looked like it was going to be an almost full showing.

While watching the previews, the heard of high school kids previously discussed walked in and sat in the back row. This is where it starts.

From the second they sat down, those idiot girls were talking in their obnoxious ditsy voices and giggling to the point that I thought MY head was going to explode. Their entire group was loud and chatty, even after the movie started.

Therefore, of course, people in the theater started telling them to shut up. In their witty nature, they said "shut up" back in some stupid voice, because they are just that creative.

Through the first half an hour of the movie this continued. Finally, a man one row behind us got up and left, and returned with one of the theater ushers.

The usher witnessed the idiots in action, and went up there and told them to be quiet or they would have to leave. Hurray for pseudo-security!

I am sure all of us have had something like this happen to us before, and there is not a whole lot we can do about it.

I want people to be aware of their common courtesies, not only for those around you, but for the sake of your own well-being, because if you keep it up, you will just grow up to be one big douche bag, and then you will officially suck at life.

Parting is such sweet sorrow that I shall share my infinite wisdom first

In Other Words

By Brianna Belford
bbelford@ipfwcommunicator.org

ignorant- adj. - caused by a lack of understanding or experience

I'm not totally an ignorant person ... I just don't have a lot of common sense.

I'm a woman and have long since given up on trying to please the masses, opting rather to please myself and do what I feel is right.

Granted, for the most part I'm either seen as The Bitch or that thing with hair and boobs and little to no brains. I am a mixture of both and will oftentimes use both the boobs and the bitchy label to get what I think and need for myself and those around me.

With that aside, I'd like to note that at the tender age of 23, an age where I should be dreaming of living in a home (with a mortgage and a flower garden that isn't tended by the apartment complex's garden boys) and eating something other than ramen and spaghetti-os for dinner I've been faced with defending my morals, my upbringing and my actions professionally and personally.

This past semester I was faced with the harsh reality that living in a box smaller than most classrooms and eating meals that can be worth less than a gallon of gas wasn't the worst thing that could happen.

I could have been labeled by professors and my fellow students as a media-hungry, womanizing, ignorant-redneck racist.

Oh wait, I was.

The world we live in is an ignorant one, and one I hope that people will view with critical eyes. As Americans receive this watered-down and censored news the ignorance grows.

One can learn as much about the genocide in Darfur by watching "The Daily Show" than they might if they happen to catch a segment on MSNBC.

Most people didn't even know of the genocide until "Entertainment Tonight" and "The Insider" profiled George Clooney and his footage from his trip to Africa.

Enter the humble newspaper. Newspapers aren't as widely read as they used to be; however, their "content" is either buried on page seven with the bingo ads for your local American Legion or it's not there at all.

As the editor of The Communicator, this past semester my goal was to give the IPFW community an insight into national, international and local topics that could potentially have an impact or create discussion that would combat this ignorance.

Not every story I wanted to publish this past semester could have been front-page news.

Nor could every story be published in a weekly paper.

Some news that is relevant on Monday evening will be old news by Friday and thus looked upon as news that should not be placed in a weekly.

When news came about that would last on the stands and I was able to get to a well-written story and/or some type of picture or graphic I jumped at the chance to use it.

The decision to print the Danish cartoons that depicted the prophet Muhammed was not an easy one. I feared for the safety of all who I was in charge of.

I commend the public for not reacting like those in other countries.

I commend those who took the opportunity to use the cartoons to educate themselves and others on what senselessness it is to riot and create violence because of a depiction that has been going on for centuries.

I will, however, point out how completely ignorant some on Student Government were to the situation.

The former SGA president, Lamar Dixon, went as far as to attempt to cut funding citing that the racist ways of The Communicator had spawned a decrease in membership, thus The Communicator should not receive as much funding.

It's hard to refute that, but it cannot be proven and the survey he put out happened to reflect the opposite.

There is also the sad and quite pathetic attempt of the lone outspoken SGA senator, Shafiq Abdul-Rahim, to squash The Communicator.

After the cartoons ran, Abdul-Rahim was quick to condemn The Communicator and its staff on Facebook and the local television stations.

Eating my feces and drinking my own urine for eternity probably will not happen because I gave the DK to publish a few cartoons to show the senselessness of violence halfway around the world; however, I will probably always think of that when I hear the Islam, as Mr. Rahim so wishes that I and my staff do just that for eternity.

Mr. Rahim, by the way, joined the student government a few days after the cartoons were published and was then quickly appointed to the allocations committee by the infamous Dixon.

It's safe to note here, kids, that the moral of this story is, if you don't like something printed in the newspaper, make sure you join the student senate and have a friend in one of the high up offices.

Be careful, however. With the recent IPSGA election of Danny Epple (yes, that one guy who drove drunk and was in an accident that killed a professor) and The Communicator's coverage of his past, or lack thereof, this past semester my own agenda or, lack thereof, was brought into question.

To put the world at ease, The Communicator covered Danny Epple and professor Manzer last fall when the accident occurred.

Last semester, Epple refused comment and Manzer's widow talked to reporters.

This semester she refused comment on Epple and the elections while he was willing to give an interview.

Touchy subjects, both this Epple story and the one about the Danish cartoons.

Both lead to unhappy readers, but both helped squash a bit of the ignorance that was running rampant on campus.

Ignorance isn't always bliss; however learning that there are two sides to every story isn't always going to make one happy, either.

At the end of this semester I'm still going to be that 23-year-old woman who some think is merely a bitch and others think of as merely a pair of boobs with some hair.

I know who I am and I know where my ignorances happen to fall.

As college students, no matter your age, keep your mind open to the other side of the story. I guarantee that your ignorance can only bring you so much understanding.

However, when faced with reality, however harsh, you will be able to appreciate humanity and each and every flaw that comes with it.

As the ignorant transfer student I chose a journey at IPFW that led to the demise of my GPA and a some respect for my mentors.

As an educated woman and editor I've chosen to leave The Communicator and let someone else publish the what the faculty and students at IPFW are wanting. I wish everyone the best of luck in combating their own ignorances.

Remeber, the first step is admitting you were wrong

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER

Editorial Policy

Editorials are the opinions of The Communicator. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of IPFW, its employees or its student body. A column is solely the opinion of its author.

The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing/major or title (if applicable). Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication. All submissions made via email will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

FEATURES PAGE EDITOR
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Features

2006 Summer Edition
vol. XXXVI, issue XXX

Vedic yajña, love & agni

By Regency Sharma
news@phwcommunicator.org

Amidst chanting of mantras and offerings made to the holy god of fire, an Indian wedding is no less than a grand celebration - a celebration of the union of two souls, not just man and wife. Lasting for over four days an Indian wedding is attended by a huge number of people which can be anywhere in between 500 to 3,000.

The wedding ceremonies commence after praying to the Elephant God of Hindus, also called Lord Ganesha. Believed to be a god of prosperity, wellness and luck, the holy figure is requested to shower his blessings on the couple and make the ceremony a memorable event.

Next is the Mehndi ceremony also popularly known as Henna. Mehndi is dried and crushed leaves of a shrub mixed with water and applied on various body parts. It gives a red coloration on drying. The color of the Mehndi signifies the strength of love between the couple. It is believed that the darker red or brown the Mehndi is, the stronger the love between the couple. Both the bride as well as the groom apply it as a token, but Mehndi on a bride's hand is often elaborate and in different patterns. Dance and music are the soul of India and any function is considered incomplete without expressing one's joy by dancing. The women actively take part in singing and dancing every evening, days before the actual wedding date.

There are a number of ceremonies performed while the ladies sing wedding songs. Several prayers and offerings are made to a number of gods and goddesses.

The wedding usually takes off at night.

A huge buffet is served comprising of traditional Indian delicacies including desserts, sweets, snacks and drinks. The wedding is an expensive affair as most gifts given to the bride and groom are ornaments made of gold.

The overall expenditure on the wedding including both the families of the bride and groom may come up to a 50 lack rupees, or $100,000 (or more). The wedding day dinner is hosted by the bride's family alone.

The groom arrives to the venue on a horse accompanied by family members dancing with the music band that comes along. This is a kind of procession and is locally known as "Barat."

As soon as the barat arrives it is garlanded and offered sweets and drinks. Finally, dinner is served. The actual wedding ceremony, or "vivaha," takes place early in the morning at about 3 a.m.

This is a long affair and it takes about three hours for the bride and groom to complete all rituals and get married. The wedding ceremony is performed by seating the bride and groom in front of the holy fire in a special decorated place called "mandap."

The priest explains to the couple their responsibilities and duties after their marriage and the couple now takes seven rounds around the holy fire, promising to walk together in all conditions of life.

This is followed by joining the of hands of the bride and the groom called "hathvela." In this ceremony some hennai is put on the couple's hands and tied with a cloth.

While the hands are still joined the priest and relatives pray to the lord of fire to bless the couple.

The last step to the wedding is the "kanyadaan." In this ceremony the parents of the bride give away their daughter in the safe hands of the groom. From now on the girl's parents consider their daughter to be her husband's responsibility and the bride now completely belongs to her husband.

Finally, it is time to bid goodbye to the couple.

All the relatives of the girl gather around her as she steps out of the "mandap" to the groom's car. This is a very emotional moment for the girl's family.

The "barat" goes back in a quiet manner and is known as "doli."

The bride enters the groom's house and carries the kalash full pious water. The water is then sprayed (flicked) on the party by the mother-in-law.

The red powder for the bindi dot is a mixture of sindoor and water. It's symbolizes that the girl is now married and treated as someone's wife- a complete woman.

The mendhi is part of the dress. Almost every lady in the wedding party wears mehndi, however, the bride's is the most elaborate.

Exchanging the floral mala helps the couple pay respect to one another.

The choora (bangles) have to be red in color. Sixty on each arm are worn for three months to show her newlywed status.

Photo contributed by Regency Sharma / news@phwcommunicator.org

RIDING HER HOME: Groom on his mare that he will ride for 5 kms while his best men and other male friends dance around him the entire way. He is wearing a garland of money, which is a sign of luck and fortune.

Photo contributed by Regency Sharma / news@phwcommunicator.org

HALDIHATH: Sitting around the sacred fire with the Bride's father. Bride's father heads this ceremony as they sit under a canopy of banana and coconut leaves intertwined with yellow flowers around the top. This ceremony is when the father places the red dye into their hands, which is used to make the Bindi dot on the Bride's forehead.